

In This Month's Newsletter: Note from the President, Meeting notes, Is it Really Spring? Awarded Cattleyas and Growth advice, Honoring a past member.

The Spike
May 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.

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Paphs for Spring

Cathy Wilcox shared these photos of plants she purchased 2 years ago from Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn in Illinois. The one on the left is **Paph. Wossner Black Wings**

(rothschildianum 'Leo' SM/JOGA x adductum var. anitum 'Ace' AM/AOS) and the one above is **Paph. Julius** (rothschildianum 'Wide Baron' x Lowii 'Exotic Dancer' FCC/AOS). Both would be considered multifloral paphiopedilums and they like to bloom in the Spring. When mature they may have five or more flowers per inflorescence. They also seem to like more light and warmer temperatures than single flowered paphs.



PRESIDENT'S BLURB

Just when you think Spring has arrived and you begin placing your plants outside, surprise, you get a quick reminder of the cold blustery days of winter. Back indoors go the plants. Okay, quit playing with me. Spring is the time to watch for new growths to appear on your orchids. Check out your Cattleyas among others. If the new growth has begun new roots, it is time to repot your orchid. If you are unsure if you repotted the plant last year, repot it anyway. (See page 5 for summary of blooming and potting times)

Two upcoming events to plan to attend:- **June 4th Progressive Dinner 4:00 PM**

Please sign up if you plan to attend so we have an accurate head count.

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Calendar of Events

EIOS monthly meeting program:	May 11th
Review of orchid awards in 2022	2023
6:30 social 7pm program.	
NOTE DATE CHANGE!	
Mother's Day Noelridge Show-case: EIOS will have plants for sale. 10-5	May 14th 2023
EIOS progressive dinner and growers tour starts 4pm	June 4th, 2023
Central Iowa Speaker's Day, Lions Club, Johnston, Iowa 9-4	July 22nd, 2023
EIOS monthly meeting Shueyville Church: program pending	Sept. 7th, 2023

What has Happened Since Our Last Meeting?

On April 6th Carson Whitlow from Ankeny, Iowa was our speaker and showed us the **World of Cypripediums**. He has grown many of these himself and told the club about culture and where one can obtain some tubers. His photos were marvelous! More about Cyps



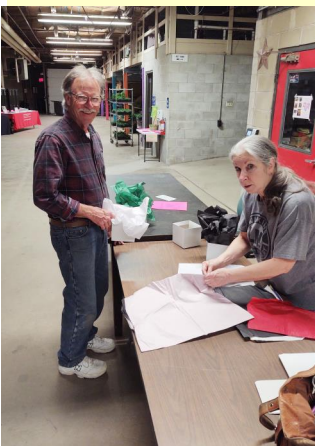
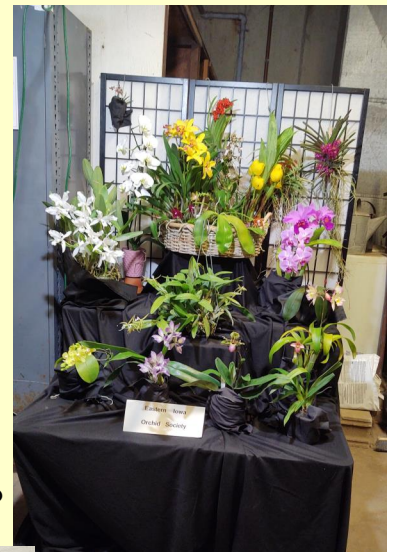
later. We had a nice selection of 'show and tell' plants with a striking yellow cymbidium presented by Jeff Metcalf. Dusdieker's basket carried on the yellow theme - and no those were

not tulips but anguloas, the tropical tulip orchid from South America.

Easter weekend was a



huge success at Noelridge Greenhouse Showcase. Doc Bannister and Nile and Lois Dusdieker donated over 50 blooming plants for sale at the club's vendor table. Jon and Joan Lorence, Sam Appleby, Bill Page and Lois and Nile set the display and filled the decorative boxes on Friday afternoon. Thanks to club members who manned the booth on the weekend! We had beautiful mini-cattleyas from Fred Clark SVO orchids and phalaenopsis from Doc's collection in Des Moines. All sold out! We raised nearly \$1000 which will be a great funding start for our fall orchid show and other educational activities. The club will do



this again on Mother's Day from 10 to 5 and will have more phals for sale. These are fun events as multiple vendors are present and Noelridge has their own bedding plants for sale.



Our May meeting will be a replay of what we did last year with a review of all the awarded flowers by the Chicago Judging Center for the 2022 calendar year. The club will pick their favorites for each of the AOS Special Awards and we shall see how we compare with the judging center's votes, The 2021 Special Awards were reviewed in the April Orchids Magazine 'Why Are They So Special' by Nile Dusdieker. A pleurothallid of Wisconsin's Walter Crawford **Lepanthes guatemalensis** 'Silas' CHM/AOS was selected for the Luer Award. We picked that one out last year as well. It was awarded at the fall Illinois Orchid Show in October of 2021 and Katie Payeur was the photographer. Nile

Is Spring Here: Really!

Well, Dusdieker bulbs are in flower, the ones the deer haven't eaten. We still are burning the wood stove in the basement almost every night to take the chill off even as I am writing this note.



A recent walk in the woods did show some encouraging signs. May

Apples are up and a couple grey morel mushrooms were peaking! Those were the only two we found. Normally the larger yellows would be abundant but soil temperature is barely at 50 degrees. Putty Root Orchid leaves are prevalent but the new



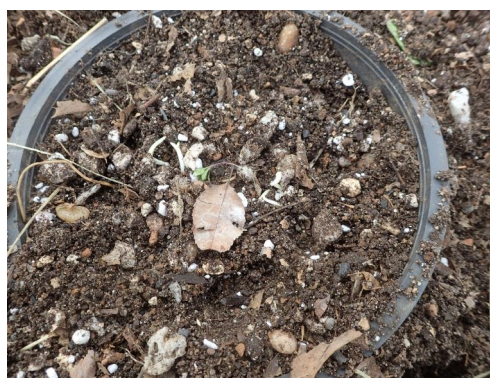
sprouts were not present yet. (right)



Oh yes, our Cypripedium bed was coming alive with shoots pushing up through the leaf mulch. We have about 20 different clusters; some are regulars and others come and go! Therefore, I tried some new seedlings I got from Wenqing Perner in mainland China (sales@hengduanbiotech.com). The japonicum was a large size and had a nice shoot. I got a group of small Cyp. reginae which I also set out but am not optimistic they will adapt. In the past I have



grown the seedlings in pots with potting mix but they usually die back as soon as summer gets hot. We shall see if placing them in open baskets (keeps the moles away) will work. I shade the growing area and use a woodland soil mixed with sand, perlite, a little charcoal and some oak leaf mulch. The last couple of years I have been more diligent with watering and the vegetative portion of the cyps will stay green till late August when they start to harden and go dormant. I mulch the entire bed with leaves in the fall and just uncovered them this week. I leave some mulch ground cover to keep the soil moist. Sometimes it works - sometimes not!. Nile D



Amazing, Awarded, Species Cattleyas of Bill Rogerson!

Bill Rogerson is a judge at the Chicago Center and is world renown for growing cattleyas. He has published in *Orchids* magazine including their supplement issues. In April he brought beautiful *Cattleya* species for judging and received 5 AOS awards including one First Class Certificate. He lives near the Botanical Gardens in Chicago and has a greenhouse in his backyard. His specialty is *Cattleya* species, especially those with two leaves per growth (bifoliate). Most people find these more difficult to grow as they require high light, a porous media with meticulous drainage, and variable periods of rest. He brings many plants to the Chicago Judging Center especially during Spring and Summer. He grows these usually in clay pots with alliflor (clay balls) as a major growth media. When the plant out grows the pot he will place a second pot at the growing tip and let the plant spread naturally to the new location. The first 3 awards pictured here are for *Cattleya lueddemanniana*. This species is native to Venezuela and blooms March and April. It requires hot humid temperatures and only dappled light. They like to rest in late Fall and Winter. The top picture is *C. lueddemanniana* 'Kathleen' AM 84 pts. The middle is *C. lueddemanniana* 'Frank Smith' AM 81 pts. The clonal name is because Bill obtained the plant from Frank at Krull-Smith Orchids in Florida. Unfortunately that clonal has already been used for that species and a new award clonal will need to be given. The bottom more lavender colored is *C. lueddemanniana* 'Kathleen II' AM 88 pts. This is a nice study in the natural variation of the species - notice the lip and color differences.



Finally the **top award of the day** went to this bifoliate species, *C. schilleriana* 'Kathleen V' FCC 90 pts. Bill likes to name his awarded clones after his wife and four other *schillerianas* of his have been awarded, hence the 'V' in the clonal. This species is from eastern Brazil and grows at about 2000' above sea level. Plants like a drier

rest in Winter after growths mature. Their flowers are very firm and rigid in appearance with a waxy shine to the petals and sepals. They resent repotting unless done right after new roots develop from the new growth eye.

On the next page I have again listed the guide to flowering and repotting of large flowered species cattleyas as compiled by Bill Rogerson. Nile D.



Types of Cattleyas (sympodial growth)

Unifoliate



Root < Bloom
- Andean + Brz

Root > Bloom
- Venezuela + Brz.

Bifoliate



Root > Bloom
- Brazilian.....

Root < Bloom
- Guarianthe/C. intermedia

Blooming Seasons for Bifoliate Cattleya Species in The 'Root Before Bloom' Group

Repot these when they begin to send up new growths in Spring/Summer

Species	Blooming Season
C. bowringiana	October/November
C. loddigesii	November to March
C. deckeri	December/January
C. amethystoglossa	January/February
C. aurantiaca	February/March
C. intermedia	March/April/May
C. skinneri	April

Blooming Seasons For Bifoliate Cattleya Species in The 'Root After Bloom' Group

Repot these immediately after they bloom in Spring/Summer/Fall

Species	Blooming Season
C. schilleriana	April/May
C. forbesii	April/May
C. porphyroglossa	May/ early June
C. granulosa	May/ early June
C. harrisoniana	June/July
C. leopoldii	June/July
C. schofieldiana	July/August
C. eldorado	July/August
C. velutina	August
C. bicolor	August/September
C. elongata	September
C. gutatta	September
C. tenuis	September

Blooming Seasons for Unifoliate Cattleya Species in The 'Root Before Bloom' Group

Repot these when they begin to send up new growths in Spring/Summer

Species	Blooming Season
C. maxima	July to November
C. labiata	October/November
C. mooreana	November
C. jenmanii	December/January
C. percivaliana	December/January
C. quadricolor	late December/January
C. trianaei	January/February
C. schroderae	March/April
C. lawrenceana	March/April
C. iricolor	April/May
C. mossiae	April/May
C. luteola	April/May
C. mendelii	April/May/June

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Blooming Seasons For Unifoliate Cattleya Species in The 'Root After Bloom' Group

Repot these immediately after they bloom in Spring/Summer/Fall

Species	Blooming Season
C. lueddemanniana	March
C. warneri	May
C. warszewiczii	June/July
C. dowiana	late June/July
C. rex	July
C. gaskelliana	July
C. aurea	July/Aug./Sept.

These charts show blooming times and repotting times for these cattleya species. This was taken from a Jan 2019 webinar 'Cattleya Species Culture' which AOS members can view online. Thanks to Bill Rogerson.

Below is a lovely C Bryan Wheeler 'Grandson' AM/AOS grown by Sharon Neff. This complex hybrid has 9 different species in its background and was made by Hausermanns in 1986



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www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org



In Orchid Heaven

Marylou Gay age 95 passed away Thursday April 27th. She was one of the early members of the Iowa City Orchid society when they used to meet at the Coralville Public Library. Later the society, now the Eastern Iowa Orchid Society met for many years at her church, the First Presbyterian Church in eastern Iowa City. She contributed plants and attended the early Illowa orchid shows in Davenport at Duck Creek Mall. She had one of her plants pilfered from our display at one of the shows, the only time I can remember that ever happening! She hosted club meetings and participated in club leadership. She is a life member of our society and will be fondly remembered - pictured here in 2009.

(Continued from page 1)

- July 22nd Central Iowa Orchid Society Speakers Day. 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

Johnston Lions Club Community Center

Speakers:

- Fred Clarke. Sunset Valley Orchids: Mini and compact Cattleyas and Orchid plant culture.

- Alan Koch. Gold Country Orchids: Unusual cattleya species and mini vanda species and hybrids.

Orchids will be available to purchase. Entry fee includes breakfast, lunch, and a dessert bar which should be illegal.

There is no meeting for July and August. Meetings will resume in September with the plant auction.

See you at the meeting MAY 11TH.

Please remember to help with the Mother's Day Noelridge showcase. We will have a small display and plants for sale. 10-5 on May 14th at Noelridge Park Greenhouse on Council Street Cedar Rapids.

Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

Surprise!

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!