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In This Month's Newsletter: Note from the President
Page 1, Holiday Party and our business meeting, Dorothy
on the Yellow Brick Road, Decade of Change, & more.

The Spike
February 2020

EIOS is Now on Facebook! At [easterniowaorchidsociety](https://www.facebook.com/easterniowaorchidsociety)
And on the web at [easterniowaorchidsociety.org](https://www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org)



Clowesetum Amazing Grace 'Dusty's Lemonade' 82 pt AM/AOS. This was awarded to Nile and Lois Dusdieker at Chicago monthly judging 1/11/20. The plant lost its leaves in October and started the current flower spike in mid-November. We ignored it completely, especially during our holiday break to Australia, and on return - Wa-La! In full bloom. Nile D

PRESIDENT'S BLURB

A new year: hopefully, new ideas, new orchids in bloom, new programs, a new website, and plans for new leadership with elections this spring. Our Feb. 6 meeting will continue discussions about orchid diseases. The second AOS webinar on the topic will be shown. Members are asked to bring plants they think have bacterial, fungal, or viral disease and we will place them on an isolation table to discuss and diagnose. We plan a raffle as well. This is orchid show season. By the time of the meeting, your club will have participated in the Minnesota and Madison shows and will be preparing for the Batavia show the following weekend. **Please send your blooming beauties to the shows. Follow club emails to ar-**

(Continued on page 6)



Calendar of Events

Minnesota Winter Carnival Show, St. Paul, MN; EIOS to display.	Jan. 25-26, 2020
Orchid Quest at Madison, WI; EIOS will display	Feb. 1-2, 2020
February meeting EIOS, Shueyville Methodist Church. Social 6:30, meeting 7 pm. Program: Orchid Diseases Part II.	Feb. 6, 2020
Master Gardener Winter Gardening Fair, Kirkwood Hiawatha Campus. EIOS will have table.	Feb 15, 2020
Batavia Orchid Show, DuPage Cnty Fairgrounds. EIOS will have a display	Feb 15-16, 2020



What a Difference a Decade Can Make

By Nile & Lois Dusdieker

As many of you know, our daughter and family live in Sydney, Australia; hence we trek ‘down under’ on a regular basis. The *Royal Botanical Garden* is located in central Sydney near the opera house and the famous harbor bridge. In the center of the park is a large rock with a statue and upon the rock is a huge orchid that has been there for decades. The sign calls it the **Sydney Rock Lily** but it **is really *Dendrobium speciosum***. We usually take a walk in the gardens on each visit. In 2010, our fall (their spring) we witnessed it in full bloom . Massive sprays with hundreds of flowers covering the entire top of the rock. We recently returned from a holiday visit and sadly the Sydney Rock Orchid is but a mere shadow of its former self. Australia has been in the midst of a prolonged drought and when we were there the temperatures were above 40 degrees centigrade (104° F) even up to 47° C (115° F). The orchid grows on the flat top of the large rock with decaying debris as the only substrate to hold moisture. Also ferns have invaded which tend to steal water from the orchid as well. I hope the Garden will try to resurrect the plant. *Yes, what a difference a decade can make - no comments on our appearance as well!* NILE D

2010 above

2020 below



EIOS Holiday Party - Great food - blooming orchids for each member - good time!



Eastern Iowa Orchid Society Annual Meeting 2019

Held at Shueyville United Methodist Church, Shueyville, Iowa during the December EIOS Holiday gathering Dec. 6, 2019. Called to order by Nile Dusdieker, President 8:10PM.

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

Nile thanked everyone for all their participation in club activities throughout the year. Our club is a non-profit organization (501c3) with a major emphasis on education of members and the public about orchids. Fund raising activities go to meet that purpose. Major activities of the club include sponsoring the Eastern Iowa Orchid Show and Sale 'Orchids Are a Scream 2!' at the Elks Lodge in October; local orchid displays at Easter and Mother's Day Showcases and Master Gardener's Fair; participation in regional orchid shows throughout the Midwest; and eight monthly meetings with educational programs open to the public. Guest speakers are paid an honorarium and travel expenses if they are not club members. Activities (minutes) of the club are recorded in the monthly newsletters. A Treasurers report will be given by Cathy Wilcox and published in the February 2020 newsletter.

MOTION: To approve the activities of the club and specifically the actions of the officers of the club for 2019 including Treasurer's report and Secretary's documentation in the newsletter.

Motion carried unanimously.

All club activities 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. Guest speakers receive an honorarium and expenses paid.

MOTION: 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.

Motion carried unanimously.

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.

MOTION: The club has a policy to reimburse individual members for purchase of items specifically designated by the officers for general club use.

Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER BZ:

Next year's orchid show will be Oct 31-Nov1, 2020 at the Elks Club Hall on SW 33rd Street. The club will again setup a small display and be selling orchids to raise funds for our fall show at the Easter and Mother's Day Noelridge Showcases and the Winter Gardener's Fair at Kirkwood Community College. The club plans to exhibit at several orchid shows in the Mid-West this year and will continue educational activities throughout the year.

SPECIAL THANKS: To all our club members that have given of their time and funds to support the club this year. We should be especially proud of the recent orchid show at the Elks Lodge. Thanks to Michael Hampton newsletter editor, Nile Dusdieker our web master, Cathy Wilcox our Treasurer, Andy Coghill-Behrends our Vice-President, and a special thanks to Doc Robert Bannister for donating so many plants for our various functions.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40PM. Submitted: Nile Dusdieker President. Dec. 6, 2019.

.EIOS Treasurer's Report 2019

Beginning balance 1/1/19 \$9206.07

*CD purchased 4/16/19 5000.00

Beginning Ck Balance \$4206.07

Revenue (show excluded)

Membership \$810

Plants purchased \$791.50

Interest \$9.47

Total +\$1610.97

Balance Ck 5817.04

Expenses (show excluded)

Fertilizer \$22

Speaker \$100

Holiday party \$547.95

Total -\$669.95

Balance \$5147.09

Show revenue (Noelridge and M Gardener Events and Vendor Tables)

+\$2071.52

Show expense (Elks, advertising, supplies)

-\$2726.28

Ending Ck balance \$4492.33

12/31/2019

*CD interest \$68.42

Submitted by Cathy Wilcox, EIOS Treasurer 1/20/2020

EIOS DUES are \$20 single, \$30 couple or family, and are due on a calendar year basis. Dues include a blooming orchid selected by each member at the annual holiday party. These can be paid at our next meeting or mailed to Cathy Wilcox, 119 Taft Speedway Iowa City, IA 52245



Cycnodes Jumbo Puff
(*Cycnoches warscewiczii* x *Mormodes badi*)

Grown and photographed by Dorothy Hampton.

Terminology:

Cycnoches is the genus name

Mormodes also a genus name

Cycnodes is hybrid name

How about

Catanoches?

(*Cycnoches* x *Catasetum*!)

Follow the Yellow Brick Road! - Dorothy! Wishing and waiting for *Catasetinae* group orchids (*Catasetum*, *Cycnoches*, *Clowesia*, *Mormodes*) to bloom sometimes seems like a long trek in the wonderland of OZ. Dorothy Hampton likes growing these plants. They drop their leaves in the fall and bloom at the base of the new summer's growth. Even when a spike appears, it will take weeks to come to full bloom. These spikes started in October, below is early Nov. and top is around Thanksgiving. After blooming these orchids will remain dormant for several months and then start new growth. Most expert growers suggest repotting just as a new growth begins but not to water till the new roots grow well into the media. Bright light and plenty of fertilizer is the key during the summer growing period. I think Dorothy followed the wizard to get this plant to bloom so perfectly. Congrats.



So You've Been Given an Orchid Plant by Ned Nash (abridged) from AOS.org

It looks so lovely and exotic sitting there on the book case. Wonder how long the flowers will last? Will it ever flower again? The plant is not much to look at without flowers, is it? First impressions such as these usually accompany that first orchid plant received as a gift. First of all, welcome to what is probably one of the world's most rewarding avocations. Yes, "avocations." There are very few who begin with orchids who do not find it a lifelong love affair.

To better understand care and maintenance of the gift plant, it will be helpful to trace just how that plant came to you. Chances are very slight that the plant has come directly from where it was grown. Most orchid nurseries do offer gift plants, usually in bud to bloom soon, to be shipped direct via common carrier. But it is much more likely that a secondary or tertiary supplier has been involved. Many of the flowering orchid plants that ultimately reach the "public at large" are grown by large nurseries that are not accessible for direct purchase either by design (intentionally) or location. Plants may either be shipped in bud for relatively quick turnover, or may be sold at some earlier stage to an intermediate grower who will bring them into bud and subsequently market them directly or indirectly.

Traditionally, smaller orchid growers served as the final step between the larger wholesale grower and the public. Flowering orchid plants would be made available both for on-site purchase at the nursery and at smaller, local orchid shows. This type of market still accounts for a good share of indirect sales, especially for products grown by the intermediate-size wholesale growers who cannot supply larger markets. Florists have also been one of the more traditional outlets for flowering orchid plants, although because of their low volume, they have not had access to the larger growers. More recently, two higher volume markets have begun to be exploited. These are the "green plant" section of supermarkets and the growing number of garden center chains.



How does this chain of supply affect your plant? The bottom line is that the plant that you are enjoying has not been obtained fresh off of the bench on which it was grown; it has been packed, shipped, and unpacked at least once and possibly several times before reaching you. So, while it will still have a flower-life expectancy at least equal to that of most other flowering plants, it will probably not last to its full potential. The question then becomes how best to maximize flower-life in your home. Orchid plants are, in general, sturdy and forgiving of neglect. However, their flowers are subject to bruising and other damage. It is a good idea first to examine the general condition of the plant and blooms. Remember, if the plant has been shipped to you by common carrier, it is less likely to have open flowers than if hand-delivered and will usually have buds to open shortly.



The foliage should be firm (turgid) and unbroken. If the foliage is limp, and doesn't respond to watering, the plant has probably lost its roots. Root loss can also be brought on by temperature extremes in transit, especially if the plant is wet. The plant may be salvageable by removing the flower spike and increasing humidity in the immediate area, but the floral display is lost. If the foliage is slightly damaged, the plant will not suffer except in terms of appearance, so there is no cause for great worry.

Flowering orchid plants are best kept in a relatively bright and airy location and should not be allowed to dry out while in the home. Prevent direct sunlight from striking the leaves. Heat, whether from heat registers or otherwise, is

the enemy of orchid flowers. Overly warm temperatures are almost always associated with low humidity and this will cause accelerated flower aging. If house plants are already being grown, placing the flowering orchid plant in the same area will not only make a nice display, but make the orchid plant happier due to the microclimate created by the collective transpiration. For maximum flower life, try to maintain orchid plants at an even moisture level. The should never be sopping wet (do not place pots directly on a saucer of water!), but they should not be allowed to get bone dry either. The potting media should be moist enough to be springy and leaves firm.

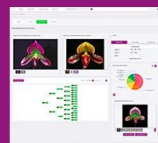
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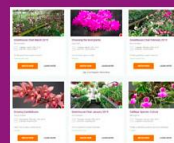
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More information like this visit aos.org and consider joining the AOS as a member.

Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

Micheal Hampton
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The Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

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

www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org

USPS to go Wild for Orchids in February!

As you may already know from last month's announcement, the United States Postal Service is releasing new stamps in 2020 - Wild Orchids. The American Orchid Society has been chosen to host the First Day of Issue Ceremony for these stamps on February 21st, 2020! The First Day of Issue Ceremony will be broadcast by USPS live on Facebook and Twitter. Join us there! You do not want to miss this historic event!

Each stamp features a photograph of one of nine species that grows wild in the United States: *Cypripedium californicum*, *Hexalectris spicata*, *Cypripedium reginae*, *Spiranthes odorata*, *Triphora trianthophoros*, *Platanthera grandiflora*, *Cyrtopodium polyphyllum*, *Calopogon tuberosus*, and *Platanthera leucophaea*. Art director Ethel Kessler designed the stamps with existing photographs by Jim Fowler.

From aos.org



(Continued from page 1)

range pickup. Better yet, come with us to the show! Special thanks to all that helped with the holiday party. Great food and good fellowship. Lovely plants from Doc Bannister and Newman's Orchids. Our annual business meeting and treasurers report are enclosed. We are fortunate to have such a healthy club. For the rest of the spring season, I am looking for a speaker, a group participation event, and maybe a short field trip. Be thinking of assuming a leadership role in the club as my 2 yr term as President expires in June, 2020. Thank you Bill Snyder for filing our 501c3 IRS updates to keep the club 'legal'! AH YES *** our website. I hope the new website will be up and running when you receive this newsletter. We seem to be 'ruled' by those out there in the clouds. In order for Google to search and open our site, we must be a 'secure site' (adds the 's' to http) and the old program is obsolete. Hence, I signed up for Word Press through GoDaddy but that turned out to be tooo much for my computer skills. A very helpful GoDaddy assistant pointed to their in house site builder and that is what we got! Let me know if you see errors. Our web address does not change. NILE D

Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

Jon and 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!