

CIOS News

June 2024 | Des Moines, Iowa



35th Annual Speaker's Day



July 20th marks our 35th annual Speaker's Day. Starting in the Summer of 1989, we have had speakers from all over North America, some coming from as far as Canada, Mexico, Ecuador and Hawaii. That diversity brings a wide perspective on orchid culture and knowledge.

Speakers give presentations on various topics including orchid culture, latest trends in orchid breeding, and observations of orchids in the wild. There is something for everyone- from orchid novice to experienced grower.

Our speakers also bring in plants for sale throughout the day. This offers attendees a chance to acquire plants not usually available locally and without shipping fees.

There is also AOS judging the morning of the event, and after the mid-day break they give a recap of the day's judged plants

and awards. It's a great opportunity to get some insight on the judging process and what AOS judges are looking for when they're awarding blooms. If you're interested in bringing a blooming plant for consideration, plants must be registered before 10am the morning of the event. For more information on the judging process and requirements check the AOS FAQ here:

Awards & Judging FAQs - aos.org

This year we will have Iván Portilla of Ecuagenera Cía. Ltda., Ecuador and Dave Sorokowsky of Paph Paradise in Lincoln California.

Iván Portilla is an Ecuadorian orchid grower and researcher working with orchids, araceae and other genera for more than 20 years.

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Next Meeting Last Meeting Before Speaker's Day

7/7/2024 - 2pm

Union Park United
Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

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During his career he has participated in expeditions to different regions of the country together with botanical researchers from different parts of the world, contributing to find new species.

Ivan's topics will be "Cattleya maxima, in situ and its different forms" and "Orchids of Ecuador."

Dave Sorokowsky has been growing paphiopedilums for about 20 years and seriously hybridizing for over 10 years.

He is an accredited AOS judge and his paphiopedilums have received over 100 awards to date from the AOS and CSA. Many of those awarded plants playing important roles in his breeding program. In 2018 Dave left wine-making in order to focus all of his time running Paph Paradise Orchids.

Dave's topics will be "Don't Fear The Slippers" and "Compact Multiflorals for the Crowded Collection."

The registration fee for the event is \$30.00 per person in advance or \$35.00 per person at the door. The cost

covers all the speakers as well as a continental breakfast, lunch, and an afternoon desert bar. With your paid admission you also get a ticket for the door prize drawings held following the last presentation. For registration information see page 9.

See you in July!



President’s Message

Another June is in the books and Speaker’s Day is rapidly approaching.

I’d like to remind everyone who hasn’t to register for Speaker’s Day ASAP either at our July meeting on the 7th or via the registration form on the website or on page 9 of the newsletter. By registering early it helps us plan for the event.

I’ve been slow this year to get my plants outside due to the volatile June weather, but I’ll be setting up my outdoor growing space soon. If you haven’t considered giving your light and warmth loving plants some outdoor weather I recommend it.

I’ll be writing a detailed article about summering your orchids outdoors - watch for that in our next issue. Until then, here are some quick tips to consider if you’re summering your plants:

Provide shade - via structures or shade fabric or row cover. Even light loving plants will wilt and burn under



intense direct sun.

Provide shelter - keeping plants against a wall or under cover will protect them from summer storms.

Provide water - sun and wind dry plants quickly, so be prepared to water often. Possibly every day in hot, dry weather.

Happy growing!

Brian Johnson - CIOS President

July Meeting!

This will be our last meeting before Speaker’s Day on July 20th.

We’ll be covering any last minute questions regarding the Speaker’s Day event.

As usual feel free to bring in any plants you’d like to show off or that you need cultural advice for Show & Tell

7/7/2024 - 2pm

Union Park United Methodist Church
2305 East 12th Street

“Family Portrait” Competition Update

Brian Johnson

In February we started the “Family Portrait” friendly competition. Ten plants from the same grex (offspring of the same cross) expected to vary in flower color and/or pattern were purchased from Sunset Valley Orchids and distributed among our member volunteers. Two competitions were in progress: “First to Bloom” and “Prettiest Flower” people’s award.

I say were because I’d like to congratulate Jason Rauscher on winning the first to bloom contest! He brought in his plant with two nice blooms to the May meeting. If you’re one of the other competitors don’t worry, you still have a chance to win the “Prettiest Flower” award. And be sure to bring your plants in for progress updates or if you have any growing questions. We’ll do our best to make sure everyone gets a nice bloom to show for the competition.

Here is a shot of Jason’s nice bloom:



Minnesota Native Orchids Trip

Maria Fedorova



Large Yellow Slipper *Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*

I am a member of the Orchid Society of Minnesota (OSM), and on June 1 a group of OSM members took a bus trip to Mille Lacs Kathio State Park where the park ranger showed us two magnificent Lady's Slippers in bloom: Large Yellow Lady's Slipper and Pink Lady's Slipper. If you did not know, the state flower of Minnesota is *Cypripedium reginae* (Showy Lady's Slipper), and overall, according to Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, there are over forty species of orchids (including six *Cypripedium* species) that are found in the state. Some of them are late spring - early summer bloomers.

Large Yellow Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium parviflorum* var. *pubescens*), also called Greater Yellow Lady's Slipper, is a large, showy orchid, with sepals and petals ranging in color from Greenish-yellow to purplish-brown, and labellum ("slipper") of pale to deep yellow. Large Yellow Lady's Slipper is found in moist rich woods, bogs, and swamps, with mature plants reaching up to 30 inches tall. This species blooms in late May-July and is distributed throughout most of North America. The only states/provinces in the US. and Canada where it does not occur naturally are California, Nevada, Oregon, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Florida, Nunavut, and the Northwest Territories. Despite of such broad habitat range, this species is in decline due to collecting pressure, habitat degradation, climate change, and unregulated herbivory.

Pink Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*) is also called Stemless Lady's Slipper or Moccasin Flower. It is widely distributed across the eastern US. and eastern to central Canada. This species is found in forests and woodlands, often near pines, and occasionally in bogs or swamps. The plants we saw on the trip were in the wetland.

Pink Lady Slipper produced a solitary flower with the pouch color ranging from almost white, to rich pink with deeper colored intricate veining. This species of Lady Slippers is considered globally secure and is common throughout much of its range.



Pink Lady slipper (Moccasin Flower) *Cypripedium acaule*

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However, according to North American Orchid Conservation Center, Pink Lady Slipper exhibits persistently low reproductive rates, caused in part by erratic flowering and infrequent pollination.

Having read that after the trip, I realized that one of the pictures I had taken showing the plant with last year's flower pod was of particular interest.

Fierce mosquitoes and allegedly numerous ticks (indeed, few hitchhikers had to be expelled from the bus upon checking our cloths) were an unwelcome bonus to our trip. Yet, a very interesting trip and always exciting to see orchids in situ.



Seed pod detail

June Meeting Brief

Jenny Howell

The June meeting of the Central Iowa Orchid Society was called to order by President Brian Johnson.

The minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read. We have \$5580.86 in our checking account and \$5080.05 in a CD account that was reinvested at 5% interest. Chriss said that 9 people had signed up for Speaker's Day. The treasurer's report was approved. Library report - nothing new.

Brian reported that the E-Board had restarted the monthly newsletter. Brian is the current editor. Carson Whitlow noted that members should check their spam folder to make sure they are not missing the newsletter and to double check with him to update

their address if they do not receive it.

Old business - Botanical Center Spring Market booth - Brian thanked members who manned the booth for the event. He reported the event seemed light on attendance from previous years.

Speaker's Day - The July meeting will cover more details. Please register ahead of the event so we can get a count before the day.

New business - Meeting dates were announced for next year. There was discussion of a change of dates for Speaker's Day next year.

Brian invited members to do a presentation on their growing techniques to share with others.

Carson shared a link in the newsletter for the MAOC meeting this evening.

Meeting adjourned.

A veritable potluck feast was enjoyed by all following the meeting.

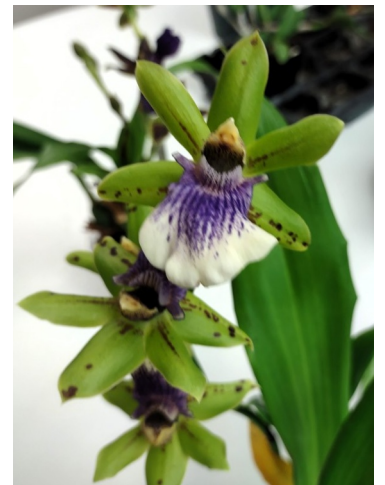
Show and Tell had several plants to see.

The winner of the First to Bloom contest was Jason Rauscher. Congratulations on his orchid success!

The door prizes were distributed.

Respectfully submitted,
Jenny Howell, acting secretary

June Potluck Photos



Upcoming Events

Central Iowa Orchid Society's 35th Annual Speaker's Day

July 20, 2024, Johnston, IA

c-we.com/cios/speakers.htm

Ivan Portilla -Ecuagenera Cía. Ltda., Ecuador

David Sorokowsky - Paph Paradise, CA

Event Details and Registration form Page 8

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest 2024

August 24-25, 2024, Kettering, Ohio

ohiovalleyorchidfest.com

Orchid Show and Sales

AOS Judging and Ribbon Judging

Demonstrations - Re-potting Help! Bring Your Plants and we can help re-pot!

Speakers

Auctions

Food

Fun Family Activities

Minnesota State Fair Orchid Show

August 30 – 31 State Fair Horticulture Building

orchidsocietyofminnesota.org/state-fair-orchid-show/

Stop by or annual Minnesota State Fair Orchid Show!

Blooming orchids will be displayed in various themed displays

Wisconsin Orchid Society Show

'Fall in Love with Orchids'

September 14-15 2024, Milwaukee, WI

wisconsinorchidsociety.com/orchidshow.php

You are invited to enjoy our award-winning exhibits of flowering orchid plants and orchid-related exhibits.

After you have enjoyed the exhibits, you will want to

go to the sales area and purchase your favorite

orchids, pots, books, and potting medium.

Chicagoland Orchid Festival

September 20-22, 2024, (Chicago, IL Area)

chicagolandorchidfest.org

Orchid's by Hausermann - Villa Park, IL

Natt's Orchids - Naperville, IL

Guest Grower Bartrop Plants from Columbus, Ohio

Fascination of Orchids International Festival

September 20-22, 2024, Santa Ana, CA

fascinationoforchids.com/oc.html

Be dazzled by thousands of Orchids and other Exotic Plants. Perhaps, even take home a plant or two from vendors from California, Asia and South America.

8th Annual Huntington International Orchid Show

October 18-20, 2024, San Marino, CA

huntington.org/orchid-show

This event showcases lush displays by local and regional orchid societies and international growers, while vendors have a wide range of orchid plants and related merchandise for sale.

Eastern Iowa Orchid Society's "Orchids are a Scream"

October 19, 2024, Cedar Rapids, IA

easterniowaorchidsociety.org/our-orchid-show

Come see hundreds of blooming orchids exhibited by orchids societies from around the Midwest and displays of orchid related crafts and collectibles, all centered around a seasonal Halloween theme. Orchid plants and collectibles will be for sale by regional vendors. Volunteers will answer questions. All plants will be judged by the American Orchid Society Judges.

For more events see

'The Orchid Mall Announcements and Events'

orchidmall.com/announce.htm

Membership

The Central Iowa Orchid Society (CIOS) was organized in 1961. It is a nonprofit social club. Membership in the CIOS also includes membership in the Mid-America Orchid Congress.

Yearly dues are \$15 for an individual or \$25 for a family. New members joining after July 1st are only required to pay one-half the annual membership fee - \$7 for an individual or \$12 for a family. Membership can be renewed starting January 1st and dues become delinquent after the February meeting. Members will be dropped from the roll if dues have not been paid in six months.

Meetings are generally held on the first Sunday of every month at the Union Park Methodist Church, East 12th & Guthrie, Des Moines and begin at 2:00 pm.

Among the advantages of membership in CIOS are a large library of orchid literature, programs, displays and discussions on blooming plants, helpful advice, door prizes, and friendly socializing about orchids.

We invite you to attend a meeting and see for yourself the excitement that orchids generate. While there, inquire about membership or send in the below membership application to:

Central Iowa Orchid Society
c/o Chriss Barck, Treasurer
16402 J Ave.
Perry, IA 50220

CIOS Officers

President - Brian Johnson

Vice President - Carson E. Whitlow

Secretary - Ardie Strawman

Treasurer - Chriss Barck

E-Board Member (1st Year) - Carol Lewnau

E-Board Member (2nd Year) - Maria Fedorova

E-Board Member (3rd Year) - Jenny Howell

Immediate Past President - Roy Molina

American Orchid Society & Orchid Digest
Liaison - Maria Fedorova

Librarian - Chriss Barck

Webmaster - Carson Whitlow

General correspondence can be sent to:
Central Iowa Orchid Society
c/o Carson E. Whitlow
22957 280th Street
Adel, IA 50003

General email:
centraliowaorchidsociety@gmail.com

Central Iowa Orchid Society Membership Form

Please make checks payable to the Central Iowa Orchid Society. \$15 for single, \$25 for family membership

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Indicate Family or Single: _____ Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ or:

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: MO ____ YR ____ Security code: _____



Central Iowa Orchid Society

35th Annual Speaker's Day

Saturday, July 20, 2024 8am - 4pm

Johnston Lions Club Community Center | 6401 Merle Hay Road Johnston, Iowa

Speakers:

Iván Portilla (Ecuagenera Cía. Ltda., Ecuador)
"Cattleya maxima, in situ and its different forms"
"Orchids of Ecuador".

David Sorokowsky (Paph Paradise, CA)
"Compact Multiflorals for the Crowded Collection"
"Don't Fear The Slippers" (Culture Talk)

\$30 per person in advance or \$35 at the door. Covers

Four presentations from speakers;

Continental breakfast, lunch and afternoon dessert bar;

1 ticket for door prize drawings (additional tickets available for purchase)

Speakers will orchids for sale. Orchids can also be per-ordered by selecting plants from speaker's catalog.

<https://ecuagenera.com> (deadline July 5; pay online, note pickup at CIOS Speaker's Day at checkout.)

<https://paphparadise.com> (deadline July 13; email order to dave@paphparadise.com, note pickup at Iowa Speaker's Day, pay at pickup.)

More information: <http://c-we.com/cios/ciosspk.htm>

Follow us on Facebook: Central Iowa Orchid Society

Central Iowa Orchid Society

Speaker's Day, July 20th, 2024

Registration Form

To help us plan for Speaker's Day, we encourage you to fill out this registration form and return it to: Central Iowa Orchid Society, c/o Chriss Barck, 16402 J Ave., Perry, IA 50220. We would like these returned by July 5, 2024 if possible.

Please make checks payable to the Central Iowa Orchid Society.

\$30.00 per person (\$35.00 at the door).

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Number of people attending: _____ Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ or:

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. Date: MO ____ YR ____ Security code: _____