

CIOS News

February 2025 | Des Moines, Iowa



An arrangement of compact and mini Cattleya hybrids from Sunset Valley Orchids. Display arrangement by Brian Johnson, Photos by Melanie Johnson. Clockwise from upper left: Slc, Dal's Perfection; Blc. Love Sound 'Dogashima' AM/AOS x Slc. (Cosmic Angel x Cosmic Candy) 'FOE Keeper'; Lc. Dennis Olivas 'Best' AM/AOS x Slc. Love Fresh 'Select'; Pot. Golden Circle 'OPRL' x Slc. Virginia Dickey 'Diamond Orchids' AM/AOS; Slc. Virginia Dickey 'Diamond Orchids' AM/AOS x Slc. Cosmic Delite 'Cosmic Sparks'; C. Orchidglade 'SVO' HCC/AOS x Slc. Candy Sparks 'High Color'

Next Meeting

March Event Planning

3/2/2025 - 2pm

Union Park United
Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

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Left: Slc, Dal's Perfection
Below: Blc. Love Sound 'Dogashima' AM/AOS x Slc. (Cosmic Angel x Cosmic Candy) 'FOE Keeper'



Left: Lc. Dennis Olivas 'Best' AM/AOS x Slc. Love Fresh 'Select'
Below: Pot. Golden Circle 'OPRL' x Slc. Virginia Dickey 'Diamond Orchids' AM/AOS



Left: Slc. Virginia Dickey 'Diamond Orchids' AM/AOS x Slc. Cosmic Delite 'Cosmic Sparks'
Below: C. Orchidglade 'SVO' HCC/AOS x Slc. Candy Sparks 'High Color'



Orchid Fest 2025 in Pictures

Brian Johnson

The 2025 Reiman Gardens Orchid Fest was held on February 8th and 9th with a Reiman member preview on Friday February 7th. As usual, the member preview night was very busy. We had steady traffic on Saturday, and even despite the game on Sunday we had traffic and sales through the last hour on Sunday. We brought in extra plants from Fred Clarke, and a box of Dendrobiums from 808 Orchids in Hawaii, in addition to Phalaenopsis provided by Doc Bannister.

As part of our education and outreach obligations we provide an information booth where we provide orchid care advice and culture sheets. Carol also brought her orchid information displays and we set out donated back issues of the AOS "Orchids" magazines to supplement our information booth.



Above: Sunday sales helped move some plants!

Clockwise from below: Carol chatting with guests on Sunday, giving them advice or orchid care; Rose working the sales tables; David and Elanie assess a Phalaenopsis; The CIOS team setting up for Friday night crowds.



February Meeting Brief

Ardie Strawman

We had a Zoom presentation by Mary Gerritsen on the Orchids of Madagascar.

The February meeting of the Central Iowa Orchid Society was called to order by President Brian Johnson. The secretary's report was read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. We have a balance in our checking account of \$1905.68, plus the CD of \$5302.30. We have 18 members who have paid dues for 2025.

President's report - Brian said he purchased a box of orchids from 808 Orchids for the Reiman Gardens event this upcoming weekend. He said the Newsletter was emailed to members. If you did not receive it, let him know. Brian thanked Maria for arranging for the Zoom presentation that we just heard.

Vice President's report - Maria said that the honorarium fee for Mary's presentation would be \$200 and should be sent to the Orchid Conservation Alliance. Maria has another presentation scheduled for October. She also has a list of pre-recorded programs from AOS that we could use in upcoming meetings. She gave each member a sheet with the programs listed, and asked that we check which ones in which we would be interested.

New business - Brian said that, by our Constitution, we can nominate members for honorary life membership. He proposed we honor Carson and Lorna Whitlow and David and Linda Brightwell. All members present approved.

Upcoming events - We have been invited to participate in the Botanical Gardens Spring Garden Market, May 8-10. They are expanding and would like more vendors. We need to decide if we want to have an information booth or a vendor booth. Our questions would be - is there a charge for a vendor booth? And do we have enough members to staff a booth, since it is Mother's Day weekend?

Reiman Gardens Orchid Fest - this upcoming weekend. Maria has purchased 3 boxes from Fred Clarke, so 80 catleyas, 10 lycaste, and 18 zygopetalum. Cost is \$1501, plus shipping. Brian will check to make sure we have enough culture sheets, and will get more printed if needed. We have lots of magazines to give away. We talked about selling bark. Doc said we could make up bags of bark on Thursday; Maria will buy bags. We need to have a list for Reiman of our members who are working, so they can get in. Ted Lare Garden Center plant event on March 15. Do

we want to participate? Members present voted yes.

Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Ardie Strawman, Secretary

Show and tell plants were brought by Brian, David, and Maria

Note from email from Maria on Monday, Feb. 3. She received an email from Canoyer's and they want to pass on us having an event there this spring. We are all ok with this. :-)



David Brightwell showing off some nicely grown plants at "Show and Tell"

March Meeting

March will be another busy month for the club. We will have a sales booth at the Ted Lare Garden Center on March 15. We're also signed up to have a display at the Greater Omaha Orchid Society show and sale on March 22nd and 23rd.

We'll also have plants on the raffle table, and as always, feel free to bring in blooming plants to share for the show and tell, or any non-blooming plants you'd like help with.

We look forward to seeing you there!

3/2/2025 - 2pm

Union Park United Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

President's Message



The 2025 Orchid Fest event is behind us, and looking back, I think it's fair to say we had a successful event. First, a big thanks goes out to our fellow vendors Natt's Orchids and Embroidery by Friday, and the Reiman Gardens for hosting us. And second, thank you to the CIOS club members that volunteered to work our sales and vendor tables, and help with setup, take down, and all the pre-show logistics that make it happen.

Sales were good through the

weekend, and we handed out dozens of culture sheets and coloring pages at the Info Booth, and gave out dozens of magazines, meeting date cards, brochures, and Speakers Day flyers.

But most encouragingly, we had several membership and sign-ups, which is an exciting result. The lifeblood of any small club is an active membership - nothing we do is possible without our members. And it's great to see people more directly engaged with the orchid community. So to both our veteran members and new - thank you. And I'll do my best to make sure that your membership in the CIOS is a rewarding experience.

Looking to the near future, we have another sales and outreach opportunity at the Ted Lare Garden Center 2025 opening event on March 15th. If you're interested in volunteering to help I'll have sign up sheets at the next meeting. We're also going to be setting up a club display at the Greater Omaha

Orchid Society show and sale March 22nd - 23rd. We'll need blooming plants for the show table and volunteers for set up and take down.

Speaking of blooming plants, I have a number in spike myself and I need to start staking and training inflorescences and show-grooming my plants. For advice, I recommend a few AOS Orchids Magazine Articles - "Growing Plants for Exhibition" by Herbert Hager in the March 1952 issue, "Good Grooming" by Ken Slump January 2005, "Staking Orchid Flowers" by Ken Slump November 2003, and for a little inspiration "The Art of Creating Elegant Displays" by Sergey and Elana Skoropad April 2019. If you're not an AOS member, consider signing up, or if you're a CIOS member you can use our club membership to browse Orchids magazine back issues - reach out to me for details.

Happy growing!
Brian Johnson, CIOS President

Upcoming Events

Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show

February 22-23, 2025, Haslet, MI

GLOS Show Info

Van Atta's Greenhouse & Flower Shop, 9008 Old M-78, Haslett, MI, 48840. Various exhibits of orchids in bloom, offered by a variety of regional Orchid Societies including GLOS. Vendors, floral arrangements, orchid photography and art, free educational talks, workshops, and advice on caring for orchids. On Sunday, there will be a special session for photographers from 9 - 11 am, before the show officially opens, photographers may photograph unhindered by other guests. Tripods are welcome during this time. And of course, hundreds of orchids for sale by many commercial orchid growers.

Orchid Society of the Ozarks "Orchids in the Ozarks"

February 28 - March 2, 2025, Fayetteville, AR

Milaegers Garden Center Events

Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center, 1335 W Knapp Drive, Fayetteville, AR 72704. Admission is \$5, children 12 and under free. Judging is being held on February 28, 2025 at 1:00 PM. Show Times: Fri: 5pm - 7:30pm Sat: 9am - 5pm, Sun: 12pm - 4pm

Wisconsin Orchid Society's "A Blooming Joy"

March 1-2, 2025, Racine, WI

Milaegers Garden Center Events

Along with the Wisconsin Orchid Society, Milaeger's will be hosting a breathtaking orchid festival that will feature an astonishing array of blooming orchids for you to enjoy. View, photograph and purchase plants from selected quality vendors. Experts on hand to answer questions! Milaeger's Garden Center, 4838 Douglas Ave, Racine, WI.

Springfield Orchid Society's "A Galaxy of Orchids"

March 15-16, 2025, Springfield, MO

Milaegers Garden Center Events

Springfield Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave, Springfield, MO 65807. Judging is being

held on March 15, 2025 at 7:30 AM. Show Times Both days 10am-4pm.

Michigan Orchid Society 66th Annual

Orchid Show

March 15-16, 2025, Madison Heights, MI

MOS event page

Sat March 15, 2025 11am-5pm and Sun March 16, 11:00 AM 4:00 PM Local 98 Plumbers Union 555 Horace Brown Dr, Madison Heights, MI 48071 There will be free parking, free educational sessions, beautiful orchid displays, and sales from specialized orchid growers. Please note, sale is on Saturday and Sunday. Sunday also includes a photography session Sunday 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Greater Omaha Orchid Society Annual

Orchid Show and Sale

March 22-23, 2025, Omaha, NE

GOOS Events

The Greater Omaha Orchid Society Annual Orchid Show and Sale is being held March 22 - 23, 2025 at the Lauritzen Gardens, 100 Bancroft St, Omaha, NE 68108.

Batavia Orchid Society Show

March 22-23, 2025, Springfield, MO

Batavia Show Flyer

The Batavia Orchid Society Show is being held March 22 - 23, 2025 at Cantigny Park 1s151 Winfield Road Wheaton IL, 60189. Stroll through Thousands of Intoxicatingly Beautiful Orchids. All day demonstrations on Orchid care and re-potting ! Featuring Orchid Plants, Books & Supplies for sale. Saturday - Feb 17, 2024 9:00am - 5:00pm Sunday - Feb 18, 2024 9:00am - 3:00pm & Sale \$5 Parking Fee, Show Admission Free.

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 in November 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 for 2025

President - Brian Johnson

Vice President - Maria Fedorova

Secretary - Ardie Strawman

Treasurer - Chriss Barck

E-Board Member (1st Year) - Jason Rauscher

E-Board Member (2nd Year) - Carol Lewnau

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: _____