

CIOS News

March 2025 | Des Moines, Iowa



G.O.O.S. 2025 Orchid Show and Sale Display and Highlights

Brian and Hazel Johnson

The Greater Omaha Orchid Society held their annual Orchid Show and Sale March 22nd-23rd at the Lauritzen Gardens. The CIOS participated with a display of 34 blooming orchids, and CIOS member Shawn Barck entered a stained glass piece in the art entries. We had a good showing, taking home 23 ribbons- 8 1st place, 7 2nd, 8 3rd place, and a best in class. Shawn took home first place and best of class ribbons for her piece.

There were also displays from several other societies with plants

ranging from miniatures to large specimen plants. Sean Kenney's Nature Connects® exhibition was also on display by the Lauritzen Gardens. Featuring several larger than life garden and nature themed sculptures made from LEGO® bricks including a Phalaenopsis orchid serving as the centerpiece of a display of living orchid plants.

Enjoy some photos from the show, and if you missed this year's event, consider making the trip next year. It's a nice show in a lovely setting and worth the drive.



CIOS display adorned with ribbons. Thanks to Maria Fedorova for coordinating display and transportation, and to Olga Gaidenko and Elaine Trinkle for assisting with setup.

Next Meeting

4/6/2025 - 2pm

Union Park United
Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

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Left: CIOS display close up. We took home a second place ribbon for the display.

Right: CIOS display close up. It's nice seeing blue ribbons adorning our lovely plants.



Left: Hazel Johnson, one of our youngest CIOS members pointing out some of her favorite plants in the display.

Right: Maria Fedorova's *Aerangis harioitiana* brought home a best in class ribbon.





Taking good photos of coerulea Catts can be tricky- their soft hues often become washed out. On the left is a blue Catt captured with Brian's phone camera. On the right is the same flower Hazel photographed with a simple point-and-shoot digital camera. It's subtle, but the dedicated camera does a better job of picking up the delicate blue/lavender hues in the petals.



Left: Shawn Barck's stained glass art piece won a best in class award. The MAOC Show Schedule "Art Entries" category has classes for 2-D art (paintings, charcoal, etchings, etc..), photography, other art including glass, ceramic, metal, tapestry, etc...., and collectibles.



Above: Bc. Durigan 'Hercules'; Below: Zga. Happy Bay 'Oliver's Twist' x Zga. World Charmer 'Spring Rose'





Left: The display from the Greater Omaha Orchid Society

Below: The Best in Class Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City display



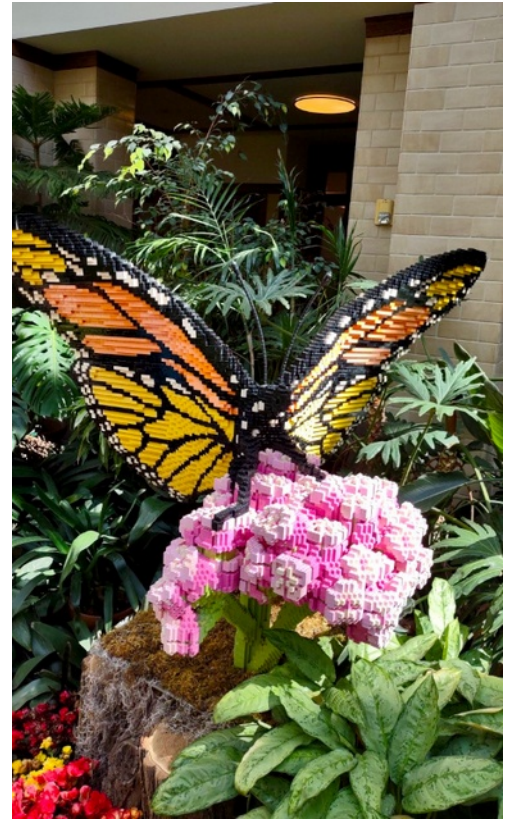
Left, top row: A lovely and large Cattleya entered by Timbucktoo Orchids. Sometimes it's hard to convey the size of a plant or flower via photo. Each of the blooms on this plant was the size of Hazel's hand.



Left, bottom row: Another specimen from Timbucktoo orchids. This plant was covered in hundreds of tiny flowers.

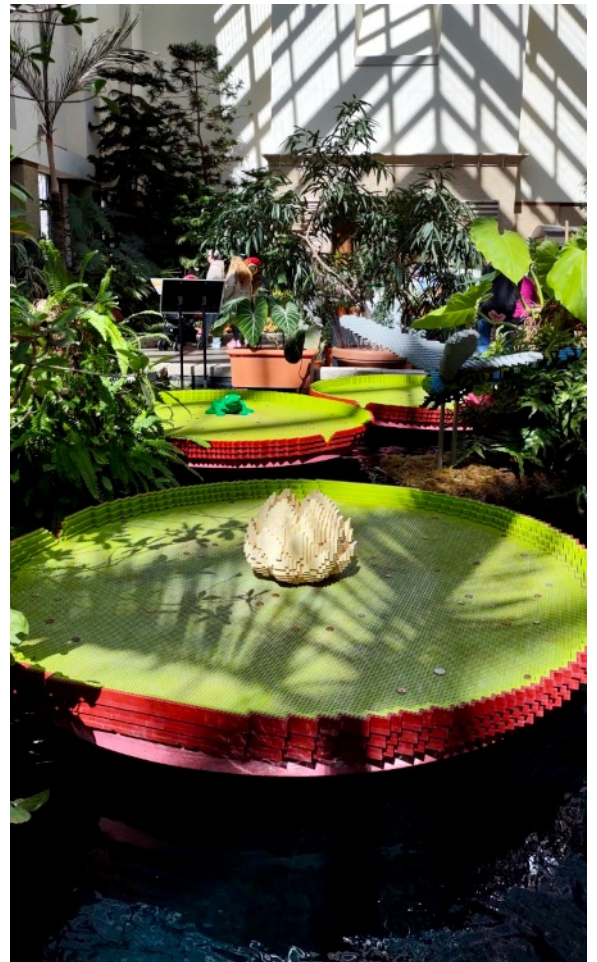


Above: A giant snail perched on a mushroom – all from LEGO bricks
Right: An equally out-sized monarch butterfly



Left: Hazel with the Lauritzen Gardens orchid display featuring a Phal sculpted from LEGO..

Right: Larger than life LEGO lily pads, dragonfly and frog.



March Meeting Brief

Ardie Strawman

The March 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 \$4625.72 plus the CD of \$5302.30. We will have a current listing next month of the income and expenses for the Reiman Gardens Orchid Fest. Chriss reported that there are new magazines to check out.

President's report - Brian reported that the February newsletter was emailed out. If you did not receive it, let him know. He also encouraged members to submit articles or photos for the next newsletter. We have 3 new members here today - Doug and Cindy Jones and Joe (sorry, didn't get his last name).

Special Committees - Jason Rauscher will be in charge of the next "First to Bloom" contest. We have 10 plants from Fred Clarke - "Artist Angel." Members will take one home and we'll see which one is the first to bloom. We will also have a photo contest of the plants. Reiman Gardens Orchid Fest - Brian thanked everyone who volunteered to work Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. He said these events are successful because of members who come to work, and enjoy meeting and learning from other orchid growers.

Upcoming events - Ted Lare Garden Center. March 15 9am-4pm. We can set up at 8:30am and will have 1 or 2 tables to sell the orchids that we already have. We will post this on our Facebook page. Greater Omaha Orchid Society Show and Sale - March

21 set up, March 22 and 23 open to the public. Maria and Olga will be going on Friday to set up. They need blooming orchids for our club display. Maria asked that members sent her a list of what plants that will be sent so she can make labels for them. Pick up time to be determined.

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden Spring Sale. May 8-10. There was discussion on whether to have an information booth or a booth to sell orchids. The hours would be Thursday set up until 5pm. A VIP preview is Thursday 5:30-8pm. Friday sales time would be 8am-10am for Botanical Center members. Open to the public 10am-5pm. Saturday open 9am-5pm, with tear-down after 5pm. We will discuss this further as we need to make sure we will have members to work, it being Mother's Day weekend.

Carson Whitlow will be doing a Zoom presentation on Cypripediums on Monday, March 10 at 5:30pm. He can give you info on the setup.

Meeting adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,
Ardie Strawman, Secretary

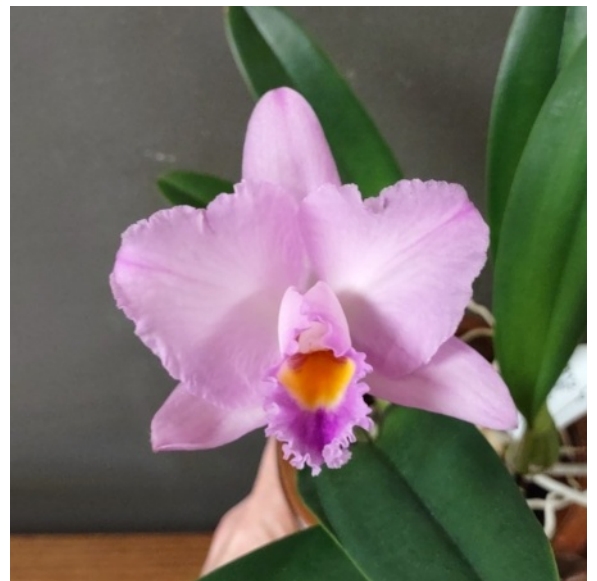
We had Show and Tell plants from Chriss Barck, Brian Johnson, and Carol Lewnau. Our program was on Black Orchids. We had lots of orchids for the Door Prize table, and lots of fun distributing them!



Chriss Barck showing off some nicely grown plants at "Show and Tell"

March meeting continued

More Show and Tell plants from the March meeting.



April Meeting

We'll be discussing our results from the Greater Omaha Orchid Society Show and Sale, and the Ted Lare sales day. We'll also discuss plans for the Des Botanical Garden Spring Market. There will be plenty of 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. For the program we'll have a pre-recorded webinar from the AOS, topic TBD.

We look forward to seeing you there!

4/6/2025 - 2pm

Union Park United Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

Ted Lare Opening Weekend Sales Event

Brian Johnson

The CIOS was invited to the Ted Lare Garden Center for an opportunity to set up a sales table for the garden center's opening day on March 15th. We brought in our leftover plants from the Reiman Garden Orchid Fest sale and Doc brought in an assortment of Phals. Sadly, the weather was against us, and traffic was slow, but we moved some plants, including all of the in-bloom Catts from Fred Clarke. We had \$190 in cash sales and \$425 in card sales on the Square account. Thanks to Doc (as always), Rose, Maria, Carol, Ardie, Patty, and Carson for coming out to help run sales and provide educational info to our guests.



Trays of colorful orchids ready for sale. Doc brought in 60 Phals, and the club brought in 11 Dens., 18 Catts., 6 Zygots, and 7 Lycastes.



President's Message



My daughter Hazel and I visited the Greater Omaha Orchid Society show and sale on Sunday and it was an excellent adventure for a couple of orchid geeks.

Hazel has been starting her own orchid collection over the last two years and I want her to stick with the hobby. I think the best way to make that happen is to minimize frustration and maximize fun. So I've been passing along my orchid knowledge to her so she can have as much success as possible at the

start of her journey.

She's also very artistic, so I suspected she would enjoy and be inspired by a show full of art and full displays. In fact, she insisted on going.

And to my delight she had a great time. We identified plants and chatted about growing, we picked out favorite flowers, took photos, played with microscopes, chatted with growers and vendors, and admired the art and displays.

And for me it was a reminder that there is more to the orchid hobby than just collecting plants. And for you, dear reader, it's a call to try your hand at participating in a show beyond plants for the club display. The MAOC show schedule has multiple classes for art entries, educational displays, floral arrangements, and more.

Now I suspect some of you are asking "what's an MAOC show schedule?". Good question. The

MAOC is the Mid-American Orchid Congress, an education and outreach organization made up of regional orchid societies in central North America. They provide rules and guidelines to member societies for conducting orchid shows. Their Show Schedule document provides a list of categories and classes for various show entries.

For a nice explainer of how ribbon judging works, check out this article on the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City website:

<https://kcorchidshow.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Ribbon-Judging-Intro.pdf>

And for more info on the MAOC, check out their website. Look under "Education" for their show information docs:

<https://midamericanorchids.org/>

Happy growing!
Brian Johnson, CIOS President

Upcoming Events

Memphis Orchid Society Show and Sale

April 25-27, 2025, Memphis, TN

MOS Show and Sale

Experience the wonder of the Memphis Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale, a must-attend event for orchid lovers and plant enthusiasts alike! This year's event will feature hundreds of stunning, exotic orchids on display, showcasing some of the rarest and most breathtaking varieties from around the world. Live ribbon judging event on Saturday morning (10 AM - Noon), vendors offering orchids and other exotic plants, accessories, and tool, a free re-potting station: bring your orchids and a society member would be happy to help you through re-potting your plant(s) and answer any question you may have. Suggestion Donation of \$5 a plant.

Schedule

Friday, April 25 - 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Saturday, April 26 - 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM (*Ribbon Judging 10 AM - Noon; Exhibit access limited during judging*)

Sunday, April 27 - 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Memphis Botanic Garden, 750 Cherry Rd, Memphis, TN 38117.

West Shore Orchid Society Spring Show

April 26 - 27, 2025, Strongsville, OH

WSOS Spring Show

2024 vendors included: Arcadia Greenhouses, Ecuagenera, Flask & Flora, Mayfield Village Orchids, Mei's Creations, Natt's Orchids, Nature In A Jar / Terrascaping Designs, Orchid Art by Charles Hess, Suphatras Clay Flowers, Wades Orchids, Windswept in Time Orchids. The West Shore Orchid Society Spring Show is being held April 26 - 27, 2025 at the Strongsville Recreation Center, 18100 Royalton Road, Strongsville, OH 44136.

Central Indiana Orchid Society Spring Show

April 26-27, 2025, Indianapolis, IN

CentrallIOS Events

The Central Indiana Orchid Society Spring Show is being held April 26 - 27, 2025 at the Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46203.

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden's annual Spring Garden Market

May 8-11, 2025, Des Moines, IA

GDMBG Events

Visit the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden's annual Spring Garden Market for a unique shopping experience located in Des Moines' most beautiful garden setting. Shop hundreds of plant varieties and tried-and-true favorites selected by our own horticulturalists that flourish in central Iowa. While shopping, enjoy food, fun, and more along with art and other garden-related merchandise from our variety of vendors and community partners. Learn more about some of our region's most special plants from our local plant societies.

Horticulture staff and volunteers will be onsite throughout the event to help answer your questions!

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: _____