

CIOS News

August 2025 | Des Moines, Iowa



Above: CIOS member Rose Frisch shared a photo of her lovely Howeara Lava Burst. If you'd like to have one of your own blooms featured in the newsletter send your photo and details to our general email box centraliowaorchidsociety@gmail.com

Next Meeting

9/7/2025 – 2pm

Greater Des Moines
Botanical Garden

909 Robert D. Ray Drive

Details on page 2

In This Issue

President's Message – 2

August Meeting Brief – 3

Upcoming Events – 4

Membership, Officers – 5

President's Message

Brian Johnson



August has been a busy month for me personally. Melanie and I worked with Group Creative Services and the Waveland Park Neighborhood Association to build and deliver several "Wonder Boxes" as part a neighborhood wide "Wonder Week: event.

The Wonder Boxes take a number of forms and are designed to share and distribute art, sculpture, photography, toys, puzzles, and games. "That's nice," you're probably thinking, "but what does this have to do with orchids?"

Pictured to the left is the box Melanie and I made for our own yard. It's garden and plant themed and we've been using it to share seedlings and plants - including orchids. So far we've had a lot of traffic and we plan on leveraging that engagement to share not just plants but information.

Going forward when we put orchids in the box for sharing, we'll include basic care information, including a QR code linking to aos.org website culture data, and information about the CIOS. It might be a small gesture, but it's a simple and inexpensive way to connect with the community, and maybe snag a new member or two.

Some time ago we discussed how we might attract new members and retain current ones. I think our most success has been with direct engagement- events where we meet and speak with people like Orchid Fest or the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden Spring Market.

This is why I also look forward to test running our meetings at the Botanical Garden in September and October. In a public venue we'll have more opportunities for outreach, and I think that will be good for the club.

Happy growing!

Brian Johnson, CIOS President

September Meeting

We'll be discussing our participation in the Eastern Iowa Orchid Society fall show.

We will have some plants for the raffle table, and if you have a blooming plant to share for the show and tell, bring it in!

9/7/2025 - 2pm

Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden

909 Robert D. Ray Drive

August Meeting Brief

Ardie Strawman

The August 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 by Brian. Expenses for Speaker's Day were given - \$423.43 to Jenny Howell. \$803.11 to Eric Sauer, \$1110.33 to Frank Cervera, \$640.66 to Maria Fedorova, \$50.00 to the Chicago Judging Center. \$440.69 to Ardie Strawman. Income was \$347.00 in door prize tickets, plus \$1210.00 that needs some further explaining. The balance in our checking account is \$6386.47 plus the CD of \$5300. Doc Bannister requested a tax donation for the monthly data plan charges. A motion was made, seconded, and approved for this. We delayed approval of the Treasurer's report until we get further clarification on the Speaker's Day income.

President's Report - Brian announced that the July newsletter was emailed to members. He welcomes photos and/or stories about members' orchids for future newsletters.

Speaker's Day - The trivia game was nicely done by Jason Rauscher. It looked like people at every table were participating. We felt this should continue at future Speaker's Days. A shorter version would be fun

at a regular meeting. Overall, we felt the day was another success! The speakers were very good, people asked a lot of questions, the food was great, and the door prizes were nice, as usual. Ardie thanked everyone who helped. Her longer list of Thank You's were given in the July newsletter.

We discussed participating in the Ted Lare Tropical Plant Show, and decided against it.

Our next two meetings, September and October, will be at the DM Botanical Gardens, as a test to see if their meeting room will meet our needs. CIOS members should have received a Membership card to show that they are members. See Carson Whitlow if you did not receive a card. It was suggested that Brian provide the Botanical Garden with a list of current CIOS members to facilitate entrance to the Garden at no charge.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ardie Strawman, Secretary

We had Show and Tell plants brought by Brian Johnson and Carol Lewnau.



Upcoming Events

Kentucky Orchid Society Show and Sale

September 6 - 7, 2025, Louisville, KY

KOS Show and Sale

Kentucky Orchid Society Show

Sat: 10:30am-5pm

Sun: 11am-4pm

St. Mathews Episcopal Church, 330 N Hubbards Lane, Louisville, KY 40207

Wisconsin Orchid Society's "Fall in Love with Orchids"

September 13 - 14, 2025, Milwaukee, WI

Fall in Love with Orchids

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, books, and potting medium. There will be a variety of items to purchase at reasonable prices.

There will be Wisconsin Orchid Society members at the show and in the sales area to help you with any questions you may have. Please stop by the Society table in the sales area and check out the free culture sheets from the American Orchid Society. We will also be offering free electronic delivery of our monthly newsletter for October thru December with a valid email address. Stop by the sales table to sign up!

Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S Layton Blvd, Milwaukee, WI 53215.

Chicagoland Orchid Fest

September 19 - 21, 2025, Chicago IL

Chicagoland Orchid Fest

Hosted by Orchids by Hausermann of Villa Park, IL and Natt's Orchids of Naperville, IL

Visit two different, interesting and unique orchid nurseries located within a 40 minute drive.

Free Admission and Free Parking. Special sale items & refreshments available at both locations.

Guest Growers at each location will be offering plants for sale from all over the world.

Orchids by Hausermann - 2N134 Addison Road Villa

Park IL

Natt's Orchids - 24645 103rd St Naperville IL 60564

September 19 - 21, 2025 8:00am - 5:00pm Friday & Saturday, 10:00am - 3:00pm Sunday

Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale

October 11 - 12, 2025, Glencoe IL

Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale

See hundreds of rare and unique orchids from the private collections of the top growers in four states compete in 130 competition classes in the longest-running amateur orchid exhibition in the Chicago area.

The Illinois Orchid Society Show is free, and does not require a ticket beyond your Chicago Botanic Garden admission and parking.

Shop for orchid plants and supplies from our network of commercial growers and collectors.

Reserve your timed entry to the Chicago Botanic Garden in advance.

10am - 4pm

Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, IL 60022

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 **After July 1st - \$7 for an individual or \$12 for a family.**

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Indicate Family or Single: _____ Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ or:

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