

CIOS News

July 2025 | Des Moines, Iowa



Above: Lc. Candy Corn C. Dubiosa 'Scully's HCC/AOS x Lc. Trick or Treat 'Orange Magic' AM/AOS. Grown and photographed by Ardie Strawman. Laeliocattleya Candy Corn is an orchid hybrid originated by Stewart Inc. in 1982

Next Meeting

8/3/2025 – 2pm

Union Park United
Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

Details on page 6

In This Issue

Speaker's Day 2025
in Photos – 2 - 4

Speaker's Day
Special Thanks – 5

President's Message – 6

July Meeting Brief – 7

Show and Tell – 8

Upcoming Events – 9

Membership, Officers – 10

Speaker's Day 2025 in Photos

Brian Johnson

Our 36th annual Speaker's Day was held July 19th featuring our two speakers Sauer of River Valley Orchids in Ohio, and Frank Cervera of Monster Island Orchids in New York. We had over 60 guests in attendance including our AOS judges. This was an excellent turn out considering scheduling conflicts with the Orchid Society of Minnesota.

Frank's talks focused on various species of *Phragmipedium* orchids growing in situ and connecting the diverse environmental conditions in their growing ranges to cultural practices we can bring to our collections. Eric's morning talk was an excellent primer on understanding orchid taxonomy and tags and included links to a variety of resources for researching orchid parentage. IN the afternoon he introduced us to a wide range of Central and South American orchids including some lesser-known but intriguing genera including *Scaphosepalum* and *Zootrophion*.

New this year we added a pub-quiz style trivia game during the lunch break. This was well received and we received several requests to bring it back in the future and possible include a shortened version during special monthly meetings. A huge thank you goes out to Jason Rauscher for organizing and presenting the quiz.

As always, thank you to everyone who attended; support from the orchid community makes this event possible.



Above: Frank and Eric gave us four very informational and photo filled presentations. Frank's documentation of in situs plants gave guests a lot to consider with *Phragmipedium* culture very different from the usual recommendations. Eric's dive into taxonomy, orchid parentage, and shopping tips with his first program was very informative for both novice and experienced growers.

Left: The Q&A sessions were lively and engaged

Speaker's Day continues on page 3 and 4



Above: We had a nice selection of plants on the judging table with several genera represented including several very lovely Paphiopedilums

Right: Our own Maria Fedorova received an award on her



Left: The orchid smarty pants winner of our trivia quiz crowned victorious.

Below: Jason as quiz master gave us a great selection of fun questions and some tricky misdirects which drew a lot of laughs.



Congratulations to Maria Fedorova on her AOS award she received on Speaker's Day. Her *Trichopilia Ellen Marie Drubka* received an AOS AM of 81 points. Below is the photo taken at home after the event to commemorate the award.



Speaker's Day Special Thanks

Ardie Strawman

SPEAKER'S DAY SPECIAL THANKS TO ----

CIOS members for attending Speaker's Day, bringing lots of yummy salads and desserts, for helping to set up and take down the tables and chairs, for donating door prize items, for purchasing door prize tickets, and for purchasing plants from the speakers.

Our speakers, Frank Cervera and Eric Sauer, for their informative and interesting talks, and for bringing plants to sell.

Doc Bannister for donating orchid flower stems for the table centerpieces and for giving an orchid plant to each person who attended Speaker's Day.

Elaine Notis for reserving the Johnston Lion's Club, and for cleanup at the end of the day.

Chriss Barck and Patty Graziano for working at the Registration table.

Shawn Barck for selling door prize tickets.

Brian Johnson for being the Master of Ceremonies and for making announcements during the day.

Maria Fedorova for transporting the speakers and their plants to and from the event.

Steve Gonzales and the judges for judging the plants and for explaining why a plant was awarded or not. Brian Johnson, David Brightwell, and Finn Graziano for handing out the door prizes.

Jason Rauscher for creating a trivia activity and teaching us some new orchid information.

Ardie Strawman and Jenny Howell for being the Kitchen Queens, for bringing the breakfast food, ordering the chicken and ham, getting the food and tableware on and off the tables for breakfast, lunch, and dessert, making the orchid table centerpieces, and cleaning up the kitchen.

Rose Frisch for extra help in the kitchen.

Special thanks to Finn Graziano for helping on Saturday. Ardie and Jenny really appreciated his willingness to do whatever needed to be done. Finn is going to the University of Iowa this fall. We wish him well and told him he could always return to help next year!

It is definitely a group effort to make Speaker's Day a success! We always have many nice comments about the speakers, the food, and how well the day goes. THANK YOU to all!!!

Ardie Strawman



President's Message

Brian Johnson



Another Speaker's Day is in the books and as always a huge thank you goes out to the CIOS volunteers that make the event happen. I hope everyone enjoyed our speakers' presentations this year and found them informative. I think this year's event overall was a success and ran smoothly with few hiccups on Saturday. We'll be discussing the details of the event and considerations for next year's Speaker's Day.

Hopefully everyone took advantage of the plants available at the event to add to their collections. If not, I hope you're using what you've learned to apply them to your existing plants.

Personally I'm looking forward to working with my Maxilarias and exploring new culture techniques. I'm

also considering some changes to my Phragmipedium care. Look forward to seeing articles documenting these adventures in future newsletter issues.

Speaking of culture, your plants should be in active growth with the warm summer weather and now is the time to wrap up re-potting before the cool fall weather starts to set in. You should also be paying attention to fertilizer applications, especially if any of your plants are enjoying some time outdoors and have been experiencing the huge amounts of rain we've received in central Iowa.

The days are also getting shorter so if you're growing plants with seasonal blooming triggers like Cattleya under lights like me, it's a good idea to make sure you're adjusting your timers to mimic the shortening days. This can help to stimulate fall blooms.

And if you weren't able to make this year's Speaker's Day I hope you'll be able to attend next year. Our scheduled speakers are Fred Clark of Sunset Valley Orchids and Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids. They'll both have an interesting variety of plants for sale and they are great speakers with a lot of knowledge.

Happy growing!

Brian Johnson, CIOS President

August Meeting

Speaker's Day follow up! We'll be discussing the details of Speaker's Day 2025 and touching on ideas for the future.

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!

We'll also have a recorded webinar from the AOS continuing with the second part of "Growing Orchids Indoors and in Terrariums with Chris Satch"

8/3/2025 - 2pm

Union Park United Methodist Church

2305 East 12th Street

July Meeting Brief

Ardie Strawman

The July meeting of the Central Iowa Orchid Society was called to order by President Brian Johnson. We have 2 guests here today. The Secretary's report was read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and approved. We have \$5706.43 in our checking account and our CD of \$5306.00. Chriss reported that there are 26 people registered for Speaker's Day plus judges, as of today.

President's report - Brian reported that the June newsletter was emailed to members. Carol Lewnau's orchid flower finally opened, after the newsletter was printed. We talked about what prize to give to the winners of the First to Bloom contest; maybe door prize tickets. Brian reported on the Webmaster - a change in ownership of the domain now goes to Brian. Speaker's Day - a sheet was sent around for members to sign up as to whether they are coming to Speaker's Day and what they are bringing for a salad and dessert. Elaine Notis is meeting the Lion's Club rental coordinator at 3pm, so we can get in and set up after that. Ardie and Jenny are meeting at Doc's greenhouse

at 2pm to get the cut orchid stems, and then they will come to the Lion's Club to make the table arrangements. Maria Fedorova is taking care of transporting the speakers. Jason Rauscher is making a trivia challenge to be used during "down time." It will have 25 questions on slides, and then an answer sheet for self-checking the correct answers. It was noted that Fred Clarke and Alan Koch will be the speakers for Speaker's Day 2026 on July 18, 2026.

New business - We will be participating in the Reiman Gardens Orchid Fest on Feb. 6-8, 2026.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Ardie Strawman, Secretary

We had Show and Tell plants brought by Rose, Carol, and Maria.



July Show and Tell

Brian Johnson



Left: Carol brought in a nice little *Bulbophyllum tingabarinum* f. *flavum*. It's definitely on the miniature side.



Right: Maria brought in her *Trichopilia Ellen Marie Drubka* which went on to win an AOS award at Speaker's Day.

Upcoming Events

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest

August 22 - 24, 2025, Kettering, OH

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest

Hosted by the Miami Valley Orchid Society and Mid America Orchid Congress

Join us for a weekend of Orchids, Food and Fun for the Entire Family!

Orchid Show

Orchid Sales - Orchids, Supplies and Related Items!

AOS Judging and Ribbon Judging

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

Speakers

Auctions

Food (for registrants)

Fun Family Activities

Volunteer Opportunities!

Sat: 9am-5pm, Sun: 11am-3pm

Judging is being held on August 23, 2025 at 8:00 AM.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 4865 Wilmington Pike, Kettering, OH 45440.

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

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: _____