



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

August 2018

Edited by Tanya Cobbin

***** **IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS** *****

- ❖ The next KOS general meeting will be on **September 4th** at 7:00 pm at Mililani Ike Elementary School Cafeteria.
- ❖ Our speaker for October will be Bob Harris and Jennifer Snyder will share their expertise on and passion for cymbidiums. They own and run Orchid People in Hilo where they grow cool and warm weather types of cymbidiums. Bob studied Botany at the University of Oregon where he worked on Mycology and Plant Morphogenesis (working with plant hormones to tissue culture green plants). To date, Bob and Jennifer have made over 1000 crosses and have created a large variety of hybrids. Great opportunity to learn cymbidium care!
- ❖ Visit us on our new website : <http://www.kuniaorchidsociety.com/>
- ❖ Upcoming Orchid Show: Honolulu Orchid Show October 12-14

Next Society General Membership Meetings

- **7:00pm** on **Sept. 4th** at **Mililani Ike Elem.**
- **7:00pm** on **Oct. 2nd** at **Mililani Ike Elem.**

INPUTS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE BY THE 20th OF EVERY MONTH

To Tanya Cobbin
185 active members

***** **A Message From Our President** *****

Our Education Committee (EDCOM) has pulled another hat trick and deserves congratulations once again. The Orchid Safari trip to Maui took place on August 16 and was a resounding success. Leland Nakai did an outstanding job and worked out the details so we could visit four nurseries. It was an excellent educational event. Thanks so much for all of your efforts. All these activities make the club more rewarding than ever. Great Effort and Great JOB –HAPPY!



On a more challenging note, we continue to struggle to find someone to be the Show Chairperson(s) for our annual show next March. The BOD has taken several actions to reduce the scope of that job and spread out some of the associated responsibilities. However, unfortunately, there has not been an abundance of interest in assuming this role. As a result, the BOD has been tasked with performing this function. We will be meeting on Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30 at Cornerstone Fellowship, Mililani Mauka to establish a firm plan for the show. We will need help from anyone who has worked as a team leader in the past. Please let anyone of the BOD know of any ideas you have and come to the meeting if you can.

Finally, Ken and Dale have an initial list of candidates for our election in November and will present the initial slate at the September meeting.

GREAT JOB AND WELL DONE TO ALL!!! ☺

Aloha!
Bob

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT- Bob Speer
VICE PRES. – Ken Ching
SECRETARY–Tanya Cobbin
TREASURER- Sherry Hunt
SERGEANT AT ARMS – Paul Mahi
EX-OFFICIO - Amy Teves

DIRECTORS
Traci Kusaka
Laura Figueira
Suzanne Yamada
Dawn Furumoto
Dale Mahi
Dennis Bunda

Mailing address:
Kunia Orchid Society
PO Box 893956
Mililani, HI 96789



Jan with Carol Blitz at Exotic Orchids of Maui

Orchid Growing Tips of the Month – Scot Mitamura (2017)

Having a reliable source of good orchid medium is essential for success in growing orchids. Many of us use a type of bark for orchids, which makes sense, since most of them are epiphytes (growing on trees).

Whichever type you choose, make sure you store the bark in a dark, dry area. If the bags are wet, cut them open and allow the medium to dry and then re-bag if necessary. If stored wet, snow mold (*Ptychogaster albus*) may contaminate the bag. So avoid purchasing wet bags.

Look for white spots on the bark, or in the most obvious cases, very fine hair like roots. If the bark has snow mold, do not use it! I have been battling this for years with several organic media, and the results have been devastating.

The fungus has roots or mycelia that are saprophytic (feeding on dead plant material on the bark), but can envelop the bark and the whole orchid root system of the orchid, essentially smothering it.

Cattleyas especially will not tolerate snow mold. The roots just die as well as the growth eyes on the rhizomes turning black. Applying fungicides provide little help, so the best solution is to repot the orchid into fresh media. I have recently changed to Radiata (Kiwi) Pine Bark from New Zealand, making sure it is stored dry, and so far so good.

I mix six parts of bark with three parts of #3 perlite and one part of Pro Mix Peat Moss. I moisten the mix and peat/perlite, then incorporate into the bark. This ensures that the peat sticks and is incorporated evenly throughout the mix. This moistened mix can be stored for short time periods of time. This is my basic mix, but it should be modified to suit each person's specific growing conditions.

If the limited storage life of mix becomes an issue, I'm going back to Blue Rock.

Historical Maui Orchid Safari

The travel group started arriving at Hawaiian Airlines around 4:30am on Thursday, August 16th, bound for Maui. We weren't quite sure what to expect since this was our first KOS orchid educational trip to Maui, as far as anyone could remember.

At 9:00am our entire group, miraculously managed to meet on time in Ha'iku at Exotic Orchids of Maui, with a total of 16 members in our group. We were greeted by our Maui host, Andy Okada, and were introduced to owners, Mike and Carol Blitz. They have been providing some of the finest orchid hybrids available in today's hobbyist market since 1997. Due to insurance restrictions, they are not open to the public. Thank you Mike & Carol for making an exception and being such gracious hosts to us.

Ted Plume's Orchids was our next stop. It was located a short distance down the road. Ted has a 10,000 sq ft. greenhouse and has been growing orchids for 40 years. Some of the types of orchids that he offers are : Cattleya, Epidendrum, Miltonia, Oncidium, Phalaenopsis, Cymbidiums, Vanilla. One of our members was able to find a hard to find Cymbidium Little Black Sambo there.

After a lunch break, we visited Aloha Botanicals Maui, located on famous Poloei Place, and was once known as Ha'iku Maui Orchid. A popular purchase for us was Neofinetia falcate, the Japan variety and their well-known oncidiums. Alan Davidson, who now manages the nursery, took really good care in wrapping each plant that we bought to carry home with us.

Our final stop of our trip was Aloha Aina Orchids of Maui, located in Pukalani where Karen & Jerome Neizman are the owners. From hobbyist, they have expanded to a business venture. We noticed that their Vandas were dark green and thick. A lot of fertilizing? After this last nursery visit, it was then a mad dash to the airport and back to Oahu.

Thank you Leland Nakai and the Education Committee for arranging an interesting and gratifying trip to Maui. We appreciated our Maui host, Andy Okada, so much that Bob Speer our KOS presented Andy with an official KOS shirt. If you couldn't make it, you missed out on a great experience. Hope to see you next time.



Our tour group at Exotic Orchids of Maui



Andy Okada our Maui host and Aileen.

Plant Culture Award Winners

Novice Division

Lys. Red Jewel
Kimo Kuoha



Cym. Chen's Ruby
Noelle Sutherland



Ett. Volcano Trick
Shirley Head



Master Division

Rlc. Solar Flare
Brad Lau



Asctm. miniatum
Lealand Nakai



V. Fuch's Delight 'Hawaiian Special'
Larry Yamamoto



Thank you to everyone who brought refreshments to our meeting:

Phyllis Johnsen – red velvet cookies, Mary Ann Zevenbergen – apple pie, Elaine Kenzel – Cake, Helen Chow – Brownies, Gloria Pfister – chocolate chip cookies, Kuka Broussard – bean and hotlinks salad, Marilyn Inouye – chicken katsu, Paul and Dale Mahi – Pasta, Inez Brunson – Lemon/ginger cake, Lois Ishishido – chicken, Amy Teves – mini muffins, Sandy Lum – happy rice, Suzanne Yamada – andagi, Aileen and Ken Ching – fruit salad.

SEPTEMBER REFRESHMENTS REMINDER:

To the following members that have signed up to bring refreshments for our September meeting: BJ Camara, Joy Long, Phyllis Johnson, Susie Hipolito, Madonna and Diandra Thomson, Priscilla Sy, Mel Toledo. We will serve refreshments between our guests speaker and our plant commentary.

For those that did not sign up to bring refreshments but would like to bring in something for September or beyond, please notify Madonna Thomson, our refreshment Committee Chair at 232-5963.

Nominations for 2019 KOS Officers

We are now accepting nominations for our 2019 KOS officers. Please contact Dale Mahi 621-0396 or Ken Ching 228-2800 if you would like to be an officer candidate or nominate one of our members to serve in 2019.

We will announce at our September meeting who has accepted a nomination this far. We will accept nominations up until the voting at our November general membership meeting.

Anyone interested in assisting the nomination committee or would like to be of service to KOS, please contact Dale or Ken.

ORCHID 101

OCD, a necessary condition to grow the best orchids? Instructor Larry Yamamoto confessed that his OCD (as diagnosed by his wife, LOL) gives his orchids consistent feeding and watering, allowing the best conditions for the beautiful orchids he shares at our monthly meetings. Lucky class participants were given orchid growing tips that Larry has discovered and has learned from his many conversations with other orchid experts. He even explained the special language that orchid growers use. Important growth factors; temperature, light, air movement and water were explained for best blooming results with recommendations on fertilizers and insect/disease treatments to use.

President, Bob Speers demonstrated orchid propagation and potting honohono orchids. Participants were able to try their hand at propagating orchids and then potting their own honohono to take home. What a treat for new members as well as 'second timers!'

Thank you to the Education Committee and Bob for an informative and well executed class!

KOS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail to: Kunia Orchid Society P.O Box 893956 Mililani, HI 96789

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code

Phone No. _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

I am interested in volunteering for the following(check all that apply):

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Finance Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Banquet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Show | <input type="checkbox"/> Workshops | <input type="checkbox"/> Show Appreciation Party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors | <input type="checkbox"/> Web Page Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Show Displays | <input type="checkbox"/> Education Committee | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality | <input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Party | |

Amount Enclosed: _____

Make Check Payable to: Kunia Orchid Society

New Membership (Jan 1 to Dec 31) - **\$20**