



# Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

## July 2018

Edited by Tanya Cobbin

### \*\*\*\*\* IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*\*\*

- ❖ The next KOS general meeting will be on August 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Mililani Ike Elementary School Cafeteria.
- ❖ Our speaker for August is Scot Mitamura on the topic of integrated pest management. Scot is a UH graduate in Horticulture, and is famous for his Honolulu Advertiser Garden Column in years past. His specialty is Cattleyas, but he is very knowledgeable about other Genus and orchids in general. He is the Orchid Horticulturist for Honolulu Botanical Gardens, and works out of the Foster Botanical Gardens, where he manages the Conservatory & support nursery. The main collection is the rare historical orchids, but much of his time is spent on unusual and rare tropical plants. We all need pest control; Scot will advise us on practical and integrated ways to manage them!
- ❖ 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 **Aug. 7<sup>th</sup>** at Mililani Ike Elem.
- **7:00pm** on **Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>** at Mililani Ike Elem.

### INPUTS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE BY THE 20<sup>th</sup> OF EVERY MONTH

To Tanya Cobbin  
181 active members

### \*\*\*\*\* A Message From Our President \*\*\*\*\*

Hey, how about that Show Display Committee. That's what I said last month and now I get to say it again, except with more gusto. What a fantastic display at the Ewa Show the results of which was our team won **FIRST PLACE!!!!!!** Great Effort and Great JOB –HAPPY!

Another highlight this month was the completion of our first Orchids 101 Workshop for beginners on July 28<sup>th</sup>. We had 26 students and several of the EDCOM present to teach the class. All of the input I have received has been very positive especially the hands on experience. I look forward to more events like this. Of course our Educational Orchid Safari trip to Maui is now firmly set for August 16. Leland Nakai is working out the details on the trip to Maui which will be for one day and we plan to see four nurseries. Please sign up on the signup sheets if you want to go. All these activities make the club more rewarding than ever

One item of significant concern involves finding 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 the associated responsibilities. However, unfortunately, there has not been an abundance of interest in assuming this role. Our organization needs help for this extremely important task. Please let anyone of the BOD know of any ideas you have on how to proceed or your willingness to help.

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

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

The long days of summer, what to do? Let's take advantage of the weather by keeping our orchids well-watered and fertilized. Re-pot ones that are actively growing and sending out roots. While repotting, check the condition of the label. Make sure that it is not brittle. Try to use longer lasting vinyl labels instead of plastic. Always write using #2 lead pencil because with pens, the sun's UV rays will make indelible ink fade. Use a hole punch and firmly wire the label to the stake of the plant. Grandchildren and band weather can separate the orchid from the label.

The label contains several things. On top, there might be a nursery's code. Then, an abbreviation of the hybrid name, and the orchid's registered name. There may be a varietal name in the single quotes, and then a possible award designation. Example: Blc. Beverly Blietz 'Karen' AM/HOS- AM/HOS

It is important to copy a label exactly as it is written. Abbreviations and hybrids will be in capital letters and lower case, while species (non-hybrids) will be in all lower case.

Why keep a label? Unlike other plants, orchids have been hybridized and registered by the Royal Horticultural Society in Kew, England since the late eighteen hundreds. With the name, one can research the orchid's genealogy back to its species. This is really important if you begin to breed orchids. And since orchids are highly collectable, having them correctly named could greatly increase the value of your collection.

To familiarize yourself with the abbreviations and registered hybrids, refer to the Sander's List of Orchid Hybrids or software such as Orchidwiz.

If you are still having trouble deciphering your label, bring it and the orchid to the next meeting to test the knowledge of one of the "Old-Timers."

## Ewa Orchid Show Report!

In spite of the hot weather and inconveniences due to the repaving of the parking lot, thank you KOS for contributing to the success of the Ewa Orchid Show.

Mahalo to the following who shared blooming orchids, supporting greens and helped with the setup and take down of our 'top notch' display: Suzanne Yamada (show lead), Ann Gerschwandtner (show lead), Jan Takamiya, Inez Brunson, Will & Angie Leu, Gerald Miyasato, Larry Yamamoto, Leland Nakai, Noelle Sutherland, Stan & Cindy Fuentes, Bob Speer, Guy Ransom, Kim Fernandez, Dawn Furumoto, Denise Stewart (new member), Thelma Siders, Bill & Hilda Takamatsu, Ken & Aileen Ching and anyone else that was inadvertently missed. To go along with our lunch, Rebecca Miyasato also made a blueberry coffee cake and Aileen made banana bread.

Special recognitions were given to the following: Cindy Fuentes (Blc. Lucky Strikex Mem. Edward Wong AM/HOS; Best Cattleya), Ken & Aileen Ching (Pda. Rev. Masao Yamada 'Hawaii' AM/AOS; Best Semi-Terete Vanda),(Epi. Pom Pom; Best Epidendrum),(Cym. Pure Inca x Valerie Absolonova; Best Cymbidium), Leland Nakai (Podangis dactyloceres; Best Miniature Species), Gerald Miyasato (Gram. Scriptum 'Gold Nuggets'; Best Grammatophyllum).

Honolulu Orchid Society Merit Award: Blc. Lucky Strike x Mem. Edward Wong AM/HOS, 79.7 pts, Cindy Fuentes.

The next show that you will have an opportunity to exhibit your best blooming orchids is the Honolulu Orchid Show in October at the Washington Middle School. You have 3 months to prep your orchids for our KOS display. We hope you will have a chance to join us and experience the making of an exciting orchid show.



Our outstanding display at the Ewa Show



Part of the KOS Display team at the Ewa Show

## July Meeting Minutes

Our seating has changed to a more cozy type of seating to help with acoustics of the room. For those bringing refreshments we would like to aim for snack type foods rather than meal/entrée type items. Refreshment timing will also be changed to later in the evenings. The Maui Orchid Safari, organized by Leland, is scheduled for August 16<sup>th</sup>. Arrangements for flying in will be made on your own, but please sign up at our next meeting so more details on the nurseries can be discussed.

Calvin Kumano is a hybridizer of Cattleya, Dendrobiums and Phalaenopsis. He likes to name his hybrids with Momilani. He says that the myth about not watering at night can be combatted with regular spraying of fungicide to keep plants healthy. Some tips from his talk: don't overpot, roots like to have a place to grip on to and with too much media the roots have a higher risk of breaking when the plant is moved. If leaves are leathery this can be dehydration but often it is root rot from too much moisture. So the best thing would be to repot and check on the roots of this leathery leafed plant.



## Plant Culture Award Winners

### **Novice Division**

Dendrobium Pixie Princess  
Kimo Kuoha



Cattleya Intermedia v corulea 'Super Blue'  
Kimo Kuoha



Den. Helix 'Blue Bayou'  
Kimo Kuoha



### **Master Division**

Phrag. Living Fire  
Ken&Aileen Ching



Vasco Sasicha  
Jan Takamiya



Vanda Trimerill  
Guy Ransom



Thank you to everyone who brought refreshments to our meeting: Karen Quon (almond cookies), Laura Figueira (beef broccoli, chicken and cookies), Linda Bonifacio (turkey roll), Aurora Beleno (turkey roll), Walter Kawaa (watermelon), Esther Cabrerros (bico-dessert), Inez Brunson (cheesecake), Andrea Moto (carrot cake/peach pie), Fran Ishida (Japanese salad), Karen Yamamoto (cliff bars and beef jerky), Bea Tano (cone sushi), Dawn Furumoto (spam musubi), Tanya Cobbin (cookies), Brian Tanemoto (lumpia), Lori Black (manapua), Lois Shishido (sushi), Ken& Aileen Ching ( pineapple with cottage cheese), Elaine Kenzel (cookies), Ann Geschwandtner (jello).

## Help Needed for New Activities Committee

To help facilitate the planning and implementation of four major KOS activities that occur each year, our Board of Directors have approved the formulation of an Activities Committee.

The four activities are: December Christmas Party, Installation Banquet in January, KOS Show Thursday Night Kick-Off Dinner in March and KOS Show Appreciation Luncheon in April.

We are seeking a chairperson and four to six committee members. If you are interested in helping, please contact Ken Ching, cell (808) 228-2800, for more information and to volunteer. Another great opportunity to work with and get to know all the members in KOS!



Stan holds Cindy's Best Cattleya in the Ewa Show.

## A Happy Beginning

The theme for the Ewa Orchid Society Show was "Orchid Takes." And a fairy tale dream came true for Cindy Fuentes when she won her first orchid show prize for her Brassolaeliocattleya Lucky Strike x Mem. Edward Wong.

A couple of weeks before the show, Cindy noticed that one of her orchid plants had produced some buds. She carefully took care of it, the flowers opened perfectly for the show and Stan brought it to Ewa to be placed in our KOS display. This was the first attempt at showing one of her plants at any orchid show. How fortunate, the first time was the charm.

Cindy has been with KOS for about 4 years and purchased this plant about 2-3 years ago at an orchid show. It goes to show, if you start with a quality plant, apply good growing skills learned from attending monthly meetings, the results could be very rewarding.

Cindy lives in Wahiawa, a great place to raise various types of orchids. Better results arise from choosing orchids best suited for your climate. Start your journey to exhibiting orchids at our monthly meetings, then showing your plants at the various shows we participate in won't be overwhelming at all. We look forward to many more success stories from our newer orchid hobbyists.

## **SPECIAL PARKING REQUEST**

**KOS members are asked to please leave the parking spaces open along the curb outside of the cafeteria.** The parking spaces will be used for our monthly guest speakers, orchid growers providing orchids and our senior citizen members who require the accommodation. As our membership grows, your Aloha is greatly appreciated.

## Refreshment Time Change

Starting with the August general meeting, our refreshment time will change from 7:00pm to a later time in the meeting. We will begin with our business part of the meeting at 7:00pm, guest speaker at around 7:15, refreshments break a little after 8:00, plant commentary at 8:20, conclusion of meeting around 8:40 pm to allow us time for cleanup and to secure the premises by 9:00pm. The refreshment break will also allow members to meet our guest speaker and ask further questions.

A kind reminder that the following members have volunteered to bring refreshments to the next meeting on August 7<sup>th</sup>: Dale Mahi, Gloria Pfister, Priscilla Sy, Kimlynn Preza, Suzanne Yamada, Priscilla Laboguen, Noelle Sutherland, Elaine Kenzel, Inez Brunson, and Marilyn Inouye.