

GARDEN ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

General Meeting—The next general meeting is August 12th at the Hanapepe United Church of Christ. Business meeting will start at 6:00. During our break we will have sign ups for volunteers working the Fair. This is your chance to earn some Makana points for redemption at the December meeting. After the break, about 7:00 pm, you'll have a chance to either mount your door prize plant or pot it. Materials such as driftwood, pots, fertilizer, and medium will be provided by the Club. Please bring your hand clippers and a flat box to help contain the material. This makes clean-up much easier. Bring your display plants.



2016 General Meetings: October 14th, and December 3rd.

2016 Events: The Fall show will be August 24-28th. See more details on page 2. The trip of Oahu was cancelled, see President's message.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was off island for a number of weeks and was sorry to hear that our trip to Oahu was canceled. We were notified of a very invasive pest infestation on Oahu. We did not want to risk bringing any pests back to Kauai. It is very important to help prevent the spread of agricultural pests from one island to another. We strongly recommend only buying plants from certified nurseries who will certify plants for shipment. For a list of certified nurseries in Hawaii go to hdoa.hawaii.gov/pi/pq/certified-nurseries. The plant quarantine officers will confiscate any noncertified plants that they discover and you may be charged with a misdemeanor offense. They are also looking to implement a penalty fee. If you have questions we recommend you call the local Plant Quarantine Office in Lihue at 808 241-7135.

To lighten things up a bit I want to note we had a great turn out for the June meeting and hopefully you were able to participate in the repotting session. It was an opportunity to bring in one of your orchid plants that you are uneasy breaking apart or it needs more than one person to wrangle it. There are always experienced members to help.

At our upcoming meeting we will be discussing the Fall Show at the Kauai Farm Fair and the volunteer sign up will take place after our business meeting during the break. Please start preparing your orchids to display at the fair. Our display is always a big draw at the Fair.

Elizabeth Borchelt, GIOS President

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- * **President:** Elizabeth Borchelt
- * **Vice President:** Gwen Teragawa
- * **Secretary:** Kimberlee Kain
- * **Treasurer:** Karen Harlow
- * **Awards:** Mildred Konishi
- * **Ex-Officio:** Carol Kanna
- * **Membership:** Bobbie Agena
- * **By Laws/Makana:** Nancy Nakama

DID YOU KNOW?

The Garden Island Orchid Society would like to welcome our newest member Laurie Makaneole.

The door prize orchids for the August meeting that will be used in our mounting/repotting are:

Cat Pot Miya Radiance x Fred Stewart, or Vanda Ascda Betty May Steal or Den Violet Yamajl 'Nalc'. Please make sure you make plant name tags for your plants so you'll know the name in the future!

Orchid plant vendors will periodically be bringing in plants for purchase at our general meetings. This will allow members to obtain plants that are blooming at other times than typically available — like our December meeting and at the shows.

FARM FAIR SHOW

The theme for this years' Orchids in Paradise show is "Dog Days of Summer". Stacie Boucher and Pearl Wollin, display co-chairs, will be providing more information on items needed for the display at the August meeting.

GIOS and our member plant vendors, will be selling plants. These are typically very nicely priced. If you have any small boxes that can be used for packaging the plants for our customers, bring to the August 12th meeting. The public fair hours are:

Thursday, 8/25, 6 pm to midnight	Friday, 8/26, 6 pm to midnight
Saturday, 8/27, Noon to midnight	Sunday, 8/28, Noon to 11 pm

The set-up and tear-down times are estimates now. Additional details will be provided at the August 12th general meeting. GIOS display set up is on Wednesday, 8/24, at 1:30 pm. Water, snacks, and dinner will be provided. Judging will take place Thursday morning at 8 am. Tear down of the display will start on Sunday at 2:00 pm. If you are not working on the tear down, please make sure you pick up your plants at 2 or arrange with someone to move them out of the display.

Plant names for tags should be given to Karen Harlow at the August 12th general meeting or send an e-mail (harlows@hawaii.rr.com) no later than 8/22. Laminated tags will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, August 24th at set-up. Please provide any names for plants you think might be ready since the display looks more professional if we do not have hand-written tags.

Volunteer sign-ups will be done at the August 12th meeting. Fair entry and parking passes will be passed out at that time also. Volunteers will be needed for: plant sales, u-haul setup, display setup, security during the show, u-haul cleanup and display cleanup.

APRIL MEETING — SCOT MITAMURA

At our April meeting, Scot provided a lot of information on how to prepare your orchids for shows. Though we haven't had space in the newsletter before now...it is just in time for the Fall Show!

Before the show:

- Maintenance
 - When your orchids are flowering, keep water off the flowers to eliminate Botrytis or flower blight. Water also makes the flowers hang down. The flowers will get small brown dots. If you let that flower dry up and it falls on the ground, the botrytis can spread.
 - when flowers are blooming check for pitting or sunken areas of the flower, which can turn brown, black - this is a sign of a virus. Get rid of it! Most likely cause is our pruner. Anything that is really sappy, soft cane, that will have a lot of viruses. Prior to cutting any plant Scot sterilizes his clippers with heat.
 - Slugs: Check orchids at night. Scot uses slug bait regularly. Once you see damage, it's too late already. Any slug bait is fine (note from Karen Harlow-Sluggo is safe for pets). Sprinkle it roughly on top and a little bit on the ground, you don't need to over apply it. But do it consistently.
 - If you have holes in the center of the leaf, that is beetle (cockroach) damage. If its on the edge of the leaf (outside —in) that is caterpillar, slug damage. Cockroaches tend to do circular cuts. Geckos won't do any damage to the flower.

APRIL MEETING — CONTINUED

- Understand your main source of light: DO NOT MOVE your plant. When spikes are emerging and you pick it up, put it back exactly in the same position or you can have flowers that are facing down or twisting. Some of the good Honohono growers will attach a bolt or something heavy to make the stems cascade straight down. Blooms should face the sun or they will twist and not face forward. A good idea is to have all your labels facing forward then you won't forget the placement.
- Make sure your orchids are free of pests, diseases and weeds. Do not Share with others (slugs sleep in the day and they come out at night). Weeds mess up your media and compete for nutrients. Repot it!
- Groom off dead leaves and sheaths. You can cut damage off the leaves (sterilize clippers first). On cattleyas take off the white sheathing, it can harbor scales. If the scales are really bad, put it on the ground and hit it with a high pressure hose. Any kind of horticultural oil will kill it, if need be.
- Stabilize your orchids and carefully transport them.
 - Stake all your plants. Make the wire 18-20" long, wrap the extra inches of wire around the top of the stake to use for the younger spikes coming up. Once they mature, you can unwind the extra wire and secure those. This alleviates running to get more wire. When transporting, secure them in a heavier pot and then in a box or tray. Secure each individual flower.
- For exhibition, certain flowers should be cascaded and not staked upright. Keep the flowers more natural.
 - Honohono. Stake the spikes separate. Oncidium like to be upright and every spike is staked. Brassicas like to be staked in a 45 degree angle. Normally they don't need much staking. You can stake once the flowers start opening. That's when the base of the spike has already hardened and they will cascade naturally.
 - Lady Slippers spikes always come out in an angle. They grow with the dorsal sepal (on top) is covering the pouch to protect it from water. Leave them alone, once the flowers are open before the show, leave them for a few days to harden. Then you can stake them up. Stake upright so all flowers are facing front. But...keep it out of the rain.
 - Cattleyas benefit the most from staking. On a Cattleya, a flower can damage another flower, so stake them so they are not touching. Use wire stakes with a "V". Once it starts to flower, cut the stake at the length needed. Put the flower on top of the V. You always want to move the stake to the flower, not the flower to the stake. Always move the flower by hand to see how it will look the nicest. If there's too much tension and you think you may break it, leave it alone. Spread the buds apart so the flower can open without touching one another. He lets them open facing down, let them hard for 3 days and then stake them up.
 - Sometimes you might need to manipulate the leaves. Move the flowers away from the leaves, if it takes tying the pseudo bulb back, then do that.
 - The key to Phalaenopsis is to stake early before flowers are open, when the biggest bud is the size of a pea, that tells you that the lower part of the spike has already hardened. Bring the stakes perfectly straight up and it will naturally fall forward. You can add wire inside the bamboo stake (#14 wire).
- How to prolong flower bloom or hasten the bloom? Put it in more light to hasten and put in shade to prolong!
- If you want blooms all year round and you don't have any orchids blooming at a certain time, go buy one that is blooming during this time period.

After the show:

- Always inspect your orchids because you will get the "freebies" from other plants. Flower thrips are a real bad problem. As a preventative measure, Scot always sprays plants after a show with a general purpose insecticide - especially when the weather is real hot and dry, you will get flower thrips. Thrips pupate in the soil and dead flowers that have fallen on the ground can be a problem (If fruit come out rough and scaly on your citrus trees, that is thrip.) Just recognize that you have thrip plants (like gardenia) nearby. Any dead flowers should not be allowed to fall on the ground. Anything that dies, do not let fall on ground! Fungus, bacteria, etc. will fly back onto the plant. Any general purpose insecticide will kill them. Isopropyl alcohol will kill them too.

Karen Harlow, Editor
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JUNE MEETING

After an amazing potluck, Neill Sams (right) provided a demonstration on mounting orchids. We've done mounting orchids before, but Neill had some unusual prospects for mounting. Surprisingly they worked! It goes to show, you ought to try something to see if it works, you might get surprised. Members brought



in orchids to either be mounted or repotted. Pictured below

right are Mary Jane and Mark Naone. I think they were looking at Sheri Kunioka-Volz orchid/mystery plant that needed to be repotted.

