

## GARDEN ISLAND ORCHID SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS

**General Meeting**— Holiday and Makana Redemption is December 5th at the United Church of Christ in Hanapepe. Take note, our meeting is on SATURDAY starting at 6:00 PM. No special speakers but an opportunity to socialize with fellow members at our annual holiday potluck party. Please bring a dish to share. There will be no learning center or display plants for this meeting. See page 2 for more details.



Cattleya Chocolate Drop, Owned by Orchid Alley, Photo by Ryan Metzger

Also, its time to renew your membership for 2015. So, please bring your membership fee of \$20 to the meeting.

2016 Calendar: Membership meetings will be 2/12, 4/8, 6/10, 8/12, 10/14, 12/3. Spring Show set-up is on 3/31 and show is 4/1-4/2. Fall Show set-up is 8/24 and show is 8/25-8/28. An off-island orchid tour is being planned for mid July.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha everyone!

Another great year is coming to an end and we have many things to celebrate! At our Holiday Potluck on December 5<sup>th</sup> we will enjoy good food and good company. This meeting is an excellent opportunity to meet your fellow orchid enthusiasts. The next member you meet and talk to may have the perfect fix for a problem you are having or provide a lively exchange of information.

This past year we had two very successful orchids shows and one exciting field trip to the Big Island to visit nurseries. We had the opportunity for hands on experience and some excellent speakers. It was a good year and I am already looking forward to 2016. Our Spring show is April 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and we hope to put together another orchid field trip to one of our neighbor islands in July.

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I would like to end with how much I appreciate our member orchid vendors and thank them for all the work they do throughout year. So Thank you Nancy Nakama, Neill and Fely Sams, Al and Amy Sugano and Gwen Teragawa. We would not be the successful club we are without you.

Elizabeth Borchelt, GIOS President

## BOARD 2014-2015

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

## DID YOU KNOW?

The door prize and display orchid we received in the October meeting was one of three plants we were repotting: Eria spicata, Honohono, or Lily of the Valley.

The Garden Island Orchid Society would like to welcome our newest members: Carolyn Carveiro, Martina Hilldorfer, Jessie Nakamoto, Leyte Aguada, Alison Koga, Lynette Balderas, and Rona Miura.

The American Orchid Society (AOS) puts out a magazine every month. GIOS belongs to AOS and receives the magazines. They are available to members to checkout from the library. There is typically four major articles as well as articles from the departments: For the Novice, Tom's Monthly Checklist, GREATIdeas, New Refugium Botanicum, Collector's Item, Orchids Illustrated, Lindleyana, and Grower Profile.

## DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

Our December holiday party will include three great activities! We have Sharing the Bounty, Onolicious Potluck, and reaping the benefits of our year long volunteer support to the society by redeeming our Makana points! Also, its time to renew your membership for 2015. So, please bring your membership fee of \$20 to the meeting.

**Onolicious Potluck**—Please bring a dish to share. We always end up with a great variety!

**Sharing the Bounty**—We will again be providing gift wrapped boxes to the United Church of Christ to hand out to folks in need at their community luncheon in December. We're asking all members to bring **non-perishable items** to be included in the boxes. Suggested items for the boxes include food products (meats, soups, pastas, etc.) and other essentials (like toothbrush, toothpaste, travel size shampoo, etc.). Please don't bring rice, the club will provide enough rice to cover all the boxes. If you have extra wrapping paper, ribbons, and package decorations, please also bring those for decorating the boxes. Each table will gift wrap boxes to be given away.



Carol Kanna has donated foam circles we will be making into wreaths to give away to various organizations in the community. Please bring items to also decorate them. If you aren't able to attend but have some items to donate, contact Gwen Teragawa at 482-0704.

**Makana Point Redemption**—Our volunteers have worked hard all year and now you'll be rewarded! See more details on page 3.



## 2015 MAKANA

The Makana Program's purpose is to promote a strong and healthy existence of GIOS. We thank all our volunteers who have stepped forward to guide and support our club's activities. Hopefully, this program will be an incentive for others to get involved in the future.

Our orchid vendors will be providing not only beautiful orchids for us to choose from but other items needed for growing orchids—bark, pots, fertilizers, etc. If you are unable to make the party, don't let your points disappear! Contact Nancy Nakama (338-1423) and let her know if you'd like to have someone else attending redeem them for you. Bring a box for all your orchids and supplies you pick up.

For all GIOS members, there will be lots of orchids and supplies to **purchase** after the Makana points have been redeemed. Please double check the list below and any questions should go to Nancy Nakama at [nnkauai@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:nnkauai@hawaii.rr.com).

Points are awarded for the following categories: Officer (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) 45 points, Board Member 42 points, Chairperson 36 points or co-chairs 18 points, Spring or Fall Show work shift 5-14 points and Committee Helpers 7 points.



Name	Points
Ada Koene	36
Al Sugano	31
Allison Toma	7
Amy Sugano	24
Aurora Kisken	14
B. Tina Berkeley	18
Barbara Prigge	61
Carol Kanna	103
Caryn Sakahashi	7
Cheryl Morris	43
Dennis Ness	7
Dennis Olivas	19
Elizabeth Borchelt	200
Eugene Jimenez	28
Eunice Olivas	12
Evelyn Tsubakihara	46

Name	Points
Greg Iten	14
Gwen Teragawa	305
Harold Shimono	25
Janice Nitta	7
Jason Matsuoka	69
Joann Nishihara	109
Judy Matsumoto	64
Karen Harlow	239
Karen Rupp	14
Kimberlee Kain	106
Lauren Bundschuh	7
Lee Anderson	142
Linda Montgomery	19
Lola Bukoski	14
Lorraine Kawane	82
Mary Jane Naone	14

Name	Points
Mary Shimogawa	7
Midred Konishi	139
Nancy Nakama	151
Neill Sams	25
Paul Brun	7
Pearl Wollin	101
Roberta Agena	88
Ryan Metzger	41
Sheri Kunioka-Volz	37
Stacie Boucher	129
Stella Shimatsu	65
Steve Uyehara	21
Susan Uchida	5
Ted Kawamura	19
Teri Nakamoto	16

## OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

After the business meeting, Dennis Olivas held a question and answer session on orchid culture. Questions about what kind of fertilizer and how often it should be used were asked and answered: Fertilizing is done once a week after thorough watering. Use a hose on applicator. Dennis uses the Ace brand placing the dial to 21. Place 4 tablespoons of fertilizer into the container and fill with water. Make sure all the crystals dissolve before spraying as it can clog up the unit. Flush with clean water after usage. Any water soluble fertilizer that is an even nutrients as possible such as a 20-20-20 or 18-18-18. Miracle Grow is also good. Dennis had a slide show of orchids from Central and Southern America.

Al Sugano held a short learning center before we started the replanting. Members were instructed how to divide and plant three kinds of orchids (*Eria spicata*, Honohono, Lily of the Valley) that were donated by several members. These plants were used for the month's members door prizes. The remainder will be sold at the Spring Fair with proceeds going to GIOS.

Below members are planting the donated plants.



# AOS—NOVICE CULTURE SHEET ON WATERING

There is a wealth of information on the American Orchid Society (AOS) website; reprinted here for your convenience. .

**Watering Know-how** More orchids are killed by incorrect watering than by any other reason. There are two separate components to proper watering; when and how. The vast majority of orchids grown by hobby growers are naturally found on trees above the ground where the light is more plentiful. These plants (epiphytes) are adapted to having their roots exposed to light and air so in addition to water, orchid roots need air.

**When do I water?** Orchids should be watered just as they begin to dry out. This rule applies to all orchids with slight variations depending on whether your plant has the ability to store water or not. Orchids such as cattleyas and oncidiums should be allowed to dry completely between waterings while orchids such as phalaenopsis and paphiopedilums that have no water storage organs should be watered before dryness occurs.

There's is no magic formula for how often to water. This is because your growing area is different from anyone else's. Temperature, humidity, air movement, potting mix (type and age), and light levels all play a role. There are several ways to determine when a potted orchid is almost dry: 1) the surface of the potting mix will appear dry when the potting mix is moss; 2) dry pots will feel lighter when lifted. After a few watering, you will be able to tell by the weight of the pot whether or not it is time to water again. If in doubt, wait a day. 3) clay pots feel dry; 4) a pencil or wooden skewer inserted into the potting mix will come out almost dry. If in doubt, a finger inserted into the potting mix is perhaps the best tool to determine the moisture content of the potting mix; it causes no harm to the plant. A bark mix dries out faster than a moss potting mix.

It is best to water your plant in the morning to give the moisture on the leaves time to dry during the day. If any water remains in the crown (where the leaves join in the center) use a paper towel to blot the water to avoid crown rot.

You should water more frequently when the temperatures are warm and decrease watering when temperatures are cool. Keep in mind that temperatures close to the window on a windowsill will be colder or hotter than your general house temperature. Avoid having the plant in the direct line of the heat or air conditioning ducts.

**How do I water?** When orchids are watered, they should be watered copiously. Place your plant into the sink and let the water run freely from the drainage holes for about a minute. Do not use salt-softened or distilled water. Allow the plant to drain completely. This is an opportunity to examine how the potting mix behaves. If you cannot pour water rapidly through the pot, the potting mix is too dense and you run the risk of starving the roots for air. If you see finely divided material that looks like coffee grounds in the water coming from the drainage holes, your potting mix is breaking down and it's time to repot into fresh mix.

Finally a couple of notes about mounted plants and plants grown in baskets without additional potting mix. Avoid dunking the plants in buckets of water. This practice very easily spreads diseases. Two short waterings a few minutes apart are much more effective than one long watering. Once water runs off the plant, the roots will have absorbed essentially all they can at that time and excess water simply runs off to the ground. Water your plants and then a few minutes later water them again, always beginning with the first plant you watered. This allows time for the roots of the last plant watered to finish absorbing water before you wet them again. Roots that are completely saturated will be a solid color while those that are not will appear mottled.

You will find lots of specific information regarding growing orchids at the American Orchid Society's website at [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org).

American Orchid Society at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156 [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

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## START PREPARING YOUR HONOHONOS



The HonoHono (Specie name - *Dendrobium anosmum*) growing cycle is getting ready to close down and will be dormant in December, January, and February. Don't forget to stop fertilizing and less watering. Due to the rain during these months, the HonoHono can get confused and it may continue to grow. To offset this condition, it is best to cut down the watering to 2 times a week, and trim off the green leaves. Also check for thrips due to the rain. Some time in February your buds should be forming on the stalk. In March increase watering to every day. From March to May you should have flowers in bloom.

The photo above was from last Springs Show and had a stunning display of these favorite orchids. The HonoHono featured on the front of OUR cookbook, really shows how beautiful they can be. **Please consider** buying cookbooks to give away as gifts this holiday season. Price is only \$10 and we'll have some on hand at the December meeting. If you need some before that time, contact Karen Harlow at 346-6871 or [harlows@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:harlows@hawaii.rr.com).

