

# Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

## July - August 2018

### President's Message

Preparation for the Farm Fair has begun! It is always a pleasure to see our display hold a key place in the Commercial & Ag tent. It is a time for all of us to bring our orchids for our fellow members and island neighbors to enjoy. Whether you have one orchid blooming or many, each orchid is important to the display so that we can present a beautiful landscape of color. I would like to encourage all members, especially our new members, to bring at least one orchid plant so that we can enjoy each other's successes. Don't worry that it may not measure up, every orchid will stand proudly with all the others. So if you have an orchid that you think will be blooming during the fair, be sure to get your plant name tag information in to Jennifer Abrams before the August 10th general meeting. Information regarding plant name tags is included later in the newsletter.



We have an opening for the Audio/Video Chair position. This person is responsible for maintaining and storing all GIOS electronic equipment. Their key duty is to set up the equipment at the general meetings and work with the Vice President to determine what equipment may be needed for the guest speakers. If you have any questions or would like to learn more about what the position entails, come to the August General Meeting 15 minutes early to see the set up.

See you all at the August meeting! Elizabeth

### Welcome New Members!

Two new members joined us at our June meeting: Donna Arnold & Jennifer Tavares-Pasag  
Welcome to GIOS Donna and Jennifer!

### Upcoming Events

**General Meeting** ~ The next General Meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2018, at the United Church of Christ in Hanapepe beginning at 6:00 pm. Sheldon Takasaki, owner of Carmela Orchids on Hawai'i Island, is our guest speaker. He will be talking about the professional side of raising orchids. Sign up sheets for the Na 'Aina Tour will be available at the meeting. Also, be sure to bring any blooming orchids to show on the display table and receive a bonus keiki orchid.

**2018 General Meeting Schedule:** August 10, October 12, and December 1

**2018 Events:** Orchids in Paradise Show at the [Farm Bureau Fair](#) ~ August 16 ~ 19  
Field trip to [Na 'Aina Kai Botanical Gardens](#) on October 15. Free for members, but space is limited to 24 people.

The Garden Island Orchid Society is affiliated with the [American Orchid Society](#).

## Orchids In Paradise Show

The Orchids in Paradise Show at the Kauai County Farm Bureau Fair is just around the corner and there is still plenty of work to be done! In addition to the GIOS display, our member plant vendors will be selling orchids. There are always some great deals on beautiful orchids! Please plan on attending the Fair and encouraging family and friends to stop by our display in the Commercial & Ag Exhibit Tent.

The Farm Fair is open to the public during the following hours:

Thursday, August 16	6:00pm to midnight
Friday, August 17	6:00pm to midnight
Saturday, August 18	12:00pm to midnight

Orchid judging will take place Thursday morning at 8:00am. Both ribbon and cash awards will be given with five places (1st-\$10, 2nd-\$7, 3rd-\$5, 4th-\$3 and 5th-\$2) for each category. We also have Grand Champion (\$25) and optional Reserve Grand Champion (\$20) awards.



2016 Best Red Cattleya

### Volunteers Needed For the Show

Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at the August 10th meeting. Fair entry and parking passes will be provided after the sign-ups are complete. Volunteers are needed for a variety of work including U-haul/trucks, display set up, security, plant sales during the fair, and display

tear down. Norfolk pine fronds are also needed for the display at set up.

Our work begins on Wednesday August 15th at 1:30pm for set-up where we need volunteers to help create our display and set up the plant sales area. Tear-down of the display starts on Sunday at 3:00pm. If you are not working on tear down, please make sure to pick up your plants at 3:00pm on Sunday or arrange with someone to move them out of the display area. Water, snacks, and dinner will be provided for set-up volunteers.

Descriptions of the volunteer positions are included later in this newsletter to provide you information about each position's responsibilities in advance of sign-ups at the meeting. Sign-up sheets will have the exact times for each position needed during the fair. For set-up there may be staggered start times to facilitate the work flow. If you are not able to be at the August meeting to sign-up, either have someone else sign you up or contact Teri Nakamoto.

Elizabeth Borchelt, the Show Chair, Teri Nakamoto, the Makana Chair, and Nancy Nakama, the Display Chair, will be available at the sign-ups on August 10 to answer any questions.

### 2018 - 2019 Officers

President:  
Elizabeth Borchelt  
Vice-President:  
Pearl Wollin  
Secretary:  
Kimberlee Kain  
Treasurer:  
Karen Harlow  
Ex-Officio:  
Bobbie Agena



2016 Best In Show

## Orchids In Paradise Show ~ continued ...

### **Wanted ~ All Blooming Orchids!**

Please bring all of your blooming orchids for display at the show. All member's orchids are needed to ensure our show is as spectacular as in previous years. In order to participate and submit an orchid, your membership must be current and 2018 dues paid. All display plants must arrive at the Fair Grounds between 2:00pm and 4:00pm on Wednesday, August 15th, to allow the volunteers working on the display to finalize placement. Be sure to groom, clean and stake your orchids prior to bringing them to the show so that they look their best! If you need assistance in getting your plants to the show, please contact one of the Officers or the Display Chair.

### **Preparing Orchids For The Show**

The following excerpts are taken from Scot Mitamuri's presentation as described in the [May-June 2012 GIOS Newsletter](#):

### **Basics of Staking and Grooming Orchids**

Make sure when bringing an orchid to any show that there are no slugs or any other bugs. Using a simple spray of rubbing alcohol will kill whatever your plant may have. Check for ants ~ 99% of the time if you have ants it is because your plant needs to be repotted. The medium has broken down and ants have made a nest inside.

Sterilize your tools first. Cut off leaves that may be old or spotted. Take flowers off if there are spots on them because it will affect the new flowers in bud. Cut it so it is visually nice but don't do it too close and catch a leaf by mistake. Take out any weeds; you don't want to spread them to other orchids.

Stake the plant early, let flowers open down, and then in three to four days when they are hard, stake it up. Cut the stake at the bottom at an angle to help it grab. When staking the plant, put the stake against the plant. Placed anywhere else it will create a spoon affect. Put it right against the plant and if a root gets broken it is no big deal. Countersink the stake to balance it out. The stake should not be any higher than the leaves of the plant. You can use electrical wire or twist ties to attach the stem to the stake. Wrap the ties around two or three times and then twist. That way it won't move up or down. Double wrap it, twist it, and try to get all the leaves together. Lift the lower leaves up, gather them all together. It is critical for big flowers that you move the foliage away from the flowers; that way they don't get interrupted by leaves and gives them space to open up.

You'll always want to stake flowers to look natural. Make a "u" in galvanized wire. Set the flower stem inside. Squeeze the bottom so it is more like a "v". Twist the stem so the flowers are straight or push into the stake. Test it first; you don't want to go too far. Measure the "u" upside down for how high you want it and then cut stake. The bottom of the stake should be close to bottom of the pot. You can move it up and down a bit to adjust for optimum results. Once the flowers are hard you might be able to move the stakes more.

It is important when transporting the plant to keep it steady so it doesn't bounce around during transit. You can cut off some of the leaves if it helps to show the flowers better. Tidy things up and keep the leaves away from the flowers. Sometimes a stem just needs a little support. Accentuate the natural beauty of the plant and make sure the flowers are facing the audience.

## **Orchids In Paradise Show -- Volunteer Opportunities**

### **Set-Up U-Haul Volunteers**

U-Haul driver and helper ~ a number of volunteers are required to help haul items needed for the show. Volunteers must have a truck and are responsible for picking up and dropping off items as directed by the Show Chair or Display Chair.

### **Set-Up Display & Vendor Area Volunteers**

Numerous volunteers are needed to assist the Show Chair and Display Chair during set up. Tables need to be arranged to provide our orchid vendors sufficient space to sell their orchids. Tables and benches are placed as directed by the Display Chair to provide adequate areas for all display orchids. Special display items may need to be put together and placed within the display. When a display is ready for orchids, volunteers will place display orchids in the appropriate section based on the type of orchid and color. The Display Chair will coordinate the volunteer's activities.

### **During the Fair Volunteers**

**Security** - Oversee the plant display and staff the display area during all assigned shifts. Patrol the area and notify visitors not to touch or move plants. Answer visitor's questions regarding the displays, orchids, and membership at GIOS. Discuss the benefits of being a member including expert speakers, the Learning Center, a free orchid at each meeting, volunteer rewards, and other special events. Visitors wanting expert orchid information or to purchase orchids should be directed to the plant sales area. Also, direct visitors to the plant sales area to pick up a membership brochure.

**Plant Sales** - Staff the plant sales area during all assigned shifts. Volunteers in this area either work the desk or assist customers in the orchid sales area. When working the desk, volunteers collect money, track sales by vendor, actively sell any other items available, and ask customers if they are interested in GIOS membership. When working the plant area, assist customers in viewing the plants. Special attention is required to make sure customers do not reach between plants as this may damage plants. Discuss the benefits of being a GIOS member including expert speakers, the Learning Center, a free orchid at each meeting, volunteer rewards, and other special events. To prevent damage to purchased orchids, carefully package the orchids into boxes.

### **Clean-up (U-Haul & Display/Vendor Area) Volunteers**

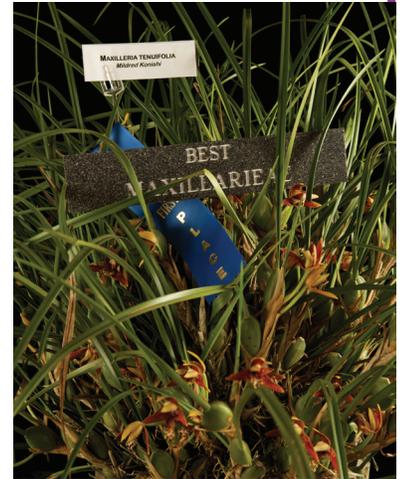
U-Haul driver and helper. Volunteers are needed to haul items when tearing down the display. Volunteers must have a truck to load items and deliver items for storage. Other items such as garbage or green waste may need to be dropped off at the refuse center.

**Display & Vendor Area** - Volunteers are needed to assist the Show Chair and Display Chair in dismantling the display and vendor areas. Display orchids are carefully taken out of the display and placed in an area where their owners can pick them up. The display tables and benches are taken down and placed where directed by Show Chair or Display Chair. Other display items are taken down and loaded onto volunteer's trucks for storage. Help load green waste and garbage on to volunteer's trucks. Sweep area as needed.

## Orchids In Paradise Show ~ Plant Name Tags

Plant names are required for all plants submitted to the show. Plant information should be provided in person to Jennifer Abrams no later than the August 10th general meeting, or emailed to her at [plantnametags@gardenislandorchidsociety.org](mailto:plantnametags@gardenislandorchidsociety.org) prior to the meeting. Laminated tags will be created and available at set up on Wednesday, August 15th. These must be placed on your orchid prior to it being placed in the display before the 4:00pm deadline.

For every plant tag, please provide the owner's name as you wish it to appear on the label, and the complete name of the orchid, which includes the plant Genus and the given name or species name. If you don't have the name of the plant (i.e. the tag has been lost), just identify the type of orchid, such as Dendrobium. If you are using a saved tag from a previous year and there is no "extra" slip of paper still attached to the laminated tag, let Jennifer know so she can make up the "extra" tag to adhere. The extra slip of paper is removed and used by the judges when putting together the master list of award winners.



## Na 'Aina Kai Botanical Gardens Tour

The [Na 'Aina Kai Botanical Gardens](#) Tour is scheduled for Monday, October 15 starting at 10am and will last approximately three hours. This field trip is free for GIOS members, but space is limited to 24 people. A sign up sheet will be available at our August meeting, along with a wait list.

Na 'Aina Kai has requested that we donate some orchids to the Garden. We will be visiting the week following our October meeting when we will be re-potting our plants, so we can hopefully have some donations from divisions as well as any others.



Garden founders Joyce and Ed Doty retired to Kauai from their ranch in Northern California in 1982. What began as a landscape project in their front yard has grown into 240 acres that have been developed into a myriad of diverse gardens, complete with one of the largest

collections of bronze sculptures in the United States. In 1999 the Dotys created a not-for-profit foundation to which they donated the entire gardens. At that time Na 'Aina Kai became open to the public for tours and events. The Foundation's mission supports and promotes tropical horticulture, agriculture and forestry, in addition to a constantly evolving garden and art experience for Kauai's residents and visitors.



David Fastenau, Editor  
Garden Island Orchid Society  
PO Box 384  
Kalaheo, HI 96741



Courtesy American Orchid Society,  
read more at <http://www.aos.org/blog/orchids-issues/cattleya-tigrina.aspx>

## August Guest Speaker

Sheldon Takasaki is our August guest speaker. He and his wife, Pearl, are the owners of [Carmela Orchids](#), located on Hawai'i Island. Sheldon's parents began the business with a small farm selling cut vandas, incorporating the nursery in 1960. Today one of Sheldon's sisters works at Carmela Orchids and two other sisters operate their own orchid nurseries, one on Hawai'i and the other on Oahu. The Takasaki's have seven employees to run the nursery.



Thanks to Sheldon, we received our February keiki door prizes from their nursery. Carmela Orchids primarily grows cattleyas, dendrobium, and phalaenopsis, plus a few other varieties. It will be interesting to learn more about the professional side of the orchid business from Sheldon.

## June Keiki Giveaway

The keiki giveaway for members who attended the June meeting was:

Epy. Serena O'Neill x Epi, cordigerum

