

Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

March - April 2019

President's Message

In the first year that I served as President, I wrote about our annual Spring Fantasy Show. After almost four years, I looked back at that newsletter and felt that many of the items I brought up then were worth mentioning again. We have many new members and I think some of those thoughts will benefit both long term members and those who have joined the Society since then. I have trimmed it down because boy was I wordy then, as one of my jobs back in the day was writing policy, so I might have gone overboard. So here goes:

The Spring Fantasy Show is a chance for all of our members to submit their orchids for judging as well as for the enjoyment of all who attend. The beautiful and well structured displays show off the orchids to their fullest and fill the hall with many brilliant colors and fragrances. Our Display Chair, Nancy Nakama, is experienced in organizing the placement of the orchids based on how many we have and how the tables best fit in the space available

Not only do we need beautiful orchids to have a successful show, we need the help of all of our members plus many folks in the community who support our organization. The help we receive is provided in many different ways and I feel its important to acknowledge this because the success of the show is due to our strong organization and the support we receive. Some of those whose support we greatly appreciate include the following.

Judges - We are very fortunate to have two members who provide strong, experienced judging. Dennis Olivas travels from the mainland and works closely with local member Steve Uyehara to facilitate the show judging. They review each orchid that is submitted and award ribbons to many. It is a time consuming, meticulous process and they do an excellent job.



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Upcoming Events

General Meeting ~ The next General Meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2019, at the United Church of Christ in Hanapepe beginning at 6:00pm. Be sure to bring any blooming orchids to show on the display table and receive a bonus keiki orchid to take home and nurture.

2019 General Meeting Schedule: April 12, June 14, August 9, October 11, and December 7

2019 Events: Spring Fantasy Show ~ April 5 - 6 with setup on April 4
Orchids In Paradise Show at the Farm Bureau Fair ~ August, 2019 - dates tbd

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

Spring Fantasy Show ~ April 5 & 6

This year's Spring Fantasy Show is fast approaching, being scheduled the weekend before the next GIOS meeting, so early planning will be the key to our success. Following is critical information about the show and how you can optimize your participation in support of GIOS.

Spring Fantasy Show

Friday, April 5, 12pm ~ 7pm

Saturday, April 6, 9am ~ 4pm

Hanapepe United Church of Christ



*2018 Spring Fantasy Show Grand
Champion Brassia Rax "Sakata"
AM/AOS owned by Pearl Wollin*

The show is open to the public and anyone interested is encouraged to attend.

Volunteer Opportunities

Many members have already graciously volunteered their time for one or more important role in support of the Show. If you have not yet and want to, or if you are able to commit some additional time, following are the various volunteer opportunities for which we still need assistance.

Please contact Teri Nakamoto at 482-0602 to volunteer or for more information.

Set Up Day ~ Thursday April 4, 1pm until finished

Set Up Day is exactly that. The Society transforms the church's hall into an extravagant tropical floral display. This encompasses a wide variety of tasks and dedicated effort, ranging from setting up tables and display walls, decorating the hall, receiving and labeling hundreds of orchids, preparing the food, and much more.

During the Show ~ volunteers are needed to provide security, sell plants and materials, staff the kitchen, and provide support for a variety of other services during Show hours.

Clean-Up ~ clean up begins immediately after the Show ends on Saturday at 4pm. Clean up includes returning display orchids to owners, breaking down tables, moving equipment to storage, cleaning the facilities, and disposing of trash.



Displaying Orchids ~ every active member of the Society is encouraged to display their blooming orchids at the show, and possibly win ribbons and awards. Please see the later articles on bringing orchids to the show, submitting name tags, and preparing orchids for display.

Donating Baked Goods ~ one of the Society's fund raisers during the show is selling delicious baked goods. Please see the Baked Goods article later in the newsletter.

2018 - 2019 Officers

President:

Elizabeth Borchelt

Vice-President:

Pearl Wollin

Secretary:

Kimberlee Kain

Treasurer:

Karen Harlow

Ex-Officio:

Bobbie Agena

Membership Dues Are Due

If you have not yet paid your 2019 GIOS dues of \$20, please contact Bobbie Agena or bring it to the April meeting!

President's Message continued ...

Photographer - The Society would not have the beautiful pictures of all of the gorgeous award winning orchids to place in the newsletter, on the website, and to be used for publicity purposes if we did not have the talented Ryan Metzger as a member and our photographer.

Food Booth - Since we have a kitchen available at the meeting hall, we are able to sell plate lunches and baked goods. This is one of our significant fund raisers every year. Foodbooth Chair Caryn Sakahashi does an excellent job of planning for the booth, leading the volunteers, and organizing the delicious menus. Many of you donate to the food booth and we appreciate that very much.

Plant Sales - During the year we receive donated plants to sell at the Spring Fantasy Show. Mildred Konishi and Steve Uyehara collect and take care of these plants until they are ready to sell. Over the years this has grown into another good fund raiser for the Society.

Plant Doctor - In addition to judging, Dennis Olivas plays the role of plant doctor at the show giving demonstrations and providing helpful information for all orchid owners. He also represents GIOS at the Kukui'ula market held a few days before the show. His demonstration is seen by many tourists in the Po'ipu area, encouraging them to come to the show.

Crafts - selling crafts at the show is a long time fund raising activity of the Society. The items sold are made by members of the Society.

Greeters - An important part of every show is making sure everyone who enters the display hall receives a welcoming greeting, and is given information about membership and donation opportunities, like our lucky orchid basket drawings. Membership Chair Bobbie Agena makes sure all of our friendly greeters are ready to help.

Orchid Vendors - We cannot forget to thank our member vendors, Nancy Nakama, Amy and Al Sugano, and Neill and Fely Sams. Not only do they provide orchids for display, they bring orchids to sell to attendees. Everyone looks forward to checking out all of the available orchids and to buy that special one to take home. The club receives monetary donations from all of the vendors!

Finally, I want to thank Teri Nakamoto and her helpers who signed up volunteers at the February meeting. We had spots available for set up, security, craft sales, plant sales, food booth, and clean up. We are also always thankful for all of the help we receive from our members and their families who help us set up and tear down. It takes around fifty volunteers to put on this show, and it takes all of our members to bring their blooming plants for display! I haven't mentioned all of the other activities that have to occur to put on the show, but believe me, our club benefits from an active and enthusiastic group of members. I sincerely hope that all of you enjoy the benefits of belonging to and participating in the Garden Island Orchid Society.

Elizabeth

Baked Goods Needed For Spring Fantasy Show

Thank you to everyone who signed up at the February meeting to donate baked goods for this year's Spring Fantasy Show. We are still in need of more baked goods to sell at this year's Show as a fund raiser for the Society. If you are interested in donating baked goods, please contact Caryn Sakahashi at 635-9066.



Baked goods include cookies, breads, brownies, mochi, party mix, energy bars, cakes, pies, and more. Items do not need to be packaged or priced. Please bring all baked goods to the Hanapepe United Church of Christ hall on April 4 between 3pm and 5pm.

With everyone's generous donations in 2018, the Society did extremely well last year. A big MAHALO goes out to all who donated last year.

WANTED: Blooming Orchids For The Display Tables

Every active GIOS member is encouraged to bring their blooming orchids for display at the Show. An active member is anyone who has paid their 2019 GIOS dues. While not all of our orchids may be prize-worthy, many of them are, and the one that you may think would not merit an award might just surprise you.



Regardless of the ribbons and awards, it takes a large number of beautiful orchids to fill out the tables and create an amazing display that fills the church hall to the rafters. Whether as a viable prize winner or a lovely table filler, all orchids are welcome and will be well used to create an overall spectacular display.

All display plants must be delivered to the Church between 2pm and 4pm on Thursday, April 4. This provides the Display Team enough time to set up all the displays. Plant name tags will be available at that time and should be attached to each plant before being left at the site.

Plant Name Tags - every orchid being displayed at the Show needs to have a plant name tag affixed to it. GIOS will create the plant name tags for an overall consistent appearance. Every plant name tag must include the name of the plant owner as you wish it to appear on the label, and the complete name of the plant. If the orchid's full name is not known, then simply identify it by the type of orchid, such as Dendrobium or Paphiopedilum.



Plant name tag submissions are due by the end of the day on Friday, March 29. Every member submitting plants for display should e-mail a list of their plant name tags to president@gardenislandorchidsociety.org, or call Elizabeth Borchelt at 651-9403. Name tags for late submissions can be created on Thursday, April 4 if needed.

Preparing Orchids For The Show

Following are the basics of grooming and staking your orchid to show off its best assets at the show.

Grooming - cut off any old, wilting or spotted leaves, remove spent flowers or blooms in decline that detract from the orchid's beauty, remove any weeds from the media. Before cutting off any leaves or flowers, sterilize a sharp cutting tool and carefully make cuts avoiding any damage to healthy leaves or flowers. Cut back or off any leaves if that helps to display the flowers better, you want to keep the leaves away from the flowers.



Pests ~ ensure your plant is free from all pests including snails, slugs, ants, spiders, mealy bugs and more. If your plant has any of these pests, remove all visible creatures immediately and treat for any unseen critters with your choice of neem oil, alcohol or other treatment.



Staking - stake plants early to encourage an upright spike. Cut the bottom of the stake at an angle and insert it into the medium against the plant. Stakes should be no higher than the leaves or buds. Use twist ties, clips or electrical wire to gently but firmly attached the spike to the stake so it does not move around.

Showy display ~ use stakes or pieces of medium to arrange the blooms so that the flowers all (or almost all) face the same direction, be sure to pull the leaves out of the way.

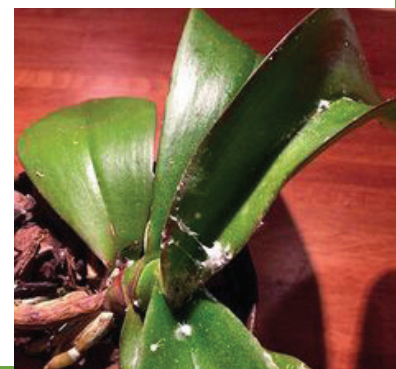
Eradicating Mealybugs

Several species of mealybugs attack orchids, even here on Kauai. A mealybug infestation reveals itself in small, whitish powdery or cottony deposits on plants. An advanced infestation can cause leaves to yellow or curl, and stunt stem growth and flower production.



A first line of defense is to simply remove mealybugs from your orchid when you find them. For hard to reach places or a larger infestation, use a cotton swap soaked in isopropyl alcohol, horticultural oil, neem oil, or your favorite pest control product to wipe these pests from your plants. If you see a mealybug on a leaf or stem, also inspect deep into the sheaths and leaf crevices, you are likely to discover more unwanted pests in these places. If one of your plants has an infestation, quarantine it away from your other orchids immediately to prevent the spread of the mealybugs.

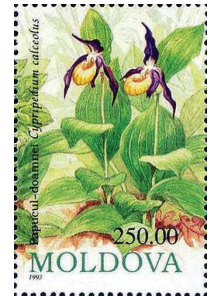
Eliminating mealybugs takes at least two applications of the treatment at a four or five day interval, and may require up to five applications for serious infestations. Catching these pests early is the key to keeping them under control. It is a great idea to inspect each plant for any pest during every watering.



(Excerpts taken from AOS Orchids Magazine, May 2001.)



David Fastenau, Editor
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Guarianthe Skinneri,
the national flower of Costa Rica
Courtesy American Orchid Society, learn
more at <http://www.aos.org/blog/orchids-issues/guarianthe-skinneri.aspx>

WANTED: Decorations for the Spring Fantasy Show



The Society is looking for some decorative items to spruce up the tables and enhance our displays at the Spring Fantasy Show.

Specifically, we would greatly appreciate any members who are able to donate the following:

- Spanish moss
- Norfolk pine fronds ~ the top 15 to 20 inches of the pine frond tips

Please make sure to wash all donated plants clean of debris and pests so they are looking their best for the Show.

Anyone who is able to supply some of these should contact Nancy Nakama at 338-1423.

