

Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

May - June 2023

President's Message

It was good to see everyone at the last meeting. A big mahalo to Mark for sharing his expertise on orchids, especially Vandas. He gave us new facts and also great reminders. I know I immediately thought I'm not fertilizing my orchids enough to keep them healthy and blooming.

Traditionally our June meeting is reserved for a re-potting session. So bring your orchids that you would like to re-pot and if you have some problem ones that you're not sure about, no worries. We have plenty of experienced orchid enthusiasts to help you. If you don't have any that you want to re-pot, we will have some extras that you can practice on. Expect to put your orchid back in the same pot. If you plan to split into two plants bring an extra pot. Orchids like to be tight, so unless you are splitting, the current pot is perfect. Bring your tools to cut away the dead roots and old parts of the plant. Al is always telling us sometimes you have to cut the grandparents off and only keep the healthy parents and kids. The club will provide the bark, sphagnum moss, stakes, twisty ties, and slow release fertilizer.

We are working on obtaining a speaker for our August meeting. We hope to bring an orchid grower from the Big Island. It's always interesting to hear from and talk to growers from around the islands, learn about the type of orchids they grow/sell and what challenges they face.

See you on June 9th,
Elizabeth



Announcement

Hilo Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale
July 28-30, 2023

Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium, Hilo, HI

This is the largest and most comprehensive orchid show and sale in the state of Hawai'i.

Upcoming Events

General Meeting ~ The next General Meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 9, 2023 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the United Church of Christ in Hanapepe.

2023 General Meeting Schedule: General meetings are scheduled for June 9, August 11, October 13 and December 2 at the United Church of Christ in Hanapepe.

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

April General Meeting Recap



Elizabeth kicked-off the February General Meeting with a review of the minutes from the last meeting. Walt Weiss provided a Treasurer's Report which was approved by the group.



2022 - 2023 Officers

President:
Elizabeth Borchelt
Vice-President:
Open Position
Secretary:
Kimberlee Kain
Treasurer:
Walt Weiss
Ex-Officio:
Bobbie Agena

Old Business:

2023 memberships dues are due

The Spring Fantasy Show and Farm Fair are both cancelled

There are still Board and Committee positions open (see below)

A variety of dendrobium keiki door prizes were given to attending members and orchids on the member display table {Thanks Nancy!}

Oncidium "Sunbeam" and Grammatophyllum

stapeliiflorum orchids were available for purchase

2023 Membership Dues

2023 dues are \$20 for the year and payable at the meeting.



New Business:

GIOS sent a sympathy card to Helen (Allen Yamada's wife) and received a thank you note in return

Some GIOS members visited the Windward Orchid Society's Show in March and received a positive mention in their newsletter

We are interested in planning field trips to other islands to visit nurseries and shows if there is enough interest from members

The Board is looking into sourcing orchid supplies for sale to members

Volunteers Needed: GIOS Open Positions

GIOS has the following Board and Committee Chair positions open:

Vice-President

Membership Chair

Audio/Visual Chair

Publicity Chair

Show Display Chair (for 2024)

Show Judging Chair (for 2024)



If you are interested in volunteering or learning more about any of these, please e-mail Elizabeth at ebkauai52@gmail.com.

All About Vandas

Mark Edlund gave a presentation on caring for vandas and answered questions from the group.

There are lots of types and colors of vandas that fall into three broad categories based on leaf shape: terete (round, pencil-like leaves), semi-terete (long narrow leaves), and strap leaf (broad flat leaves).



An easy to care for example of a terete vanda is Miss Joaquim. This is easy to grow, likes full sun, generally blooms in the summer, and needs daily watering because it does not store water. When it grows big, it can be cut in half to propagate it.



This healthy and happy semi-terete example to the left that Mark brought was started a few years ago from a cutting and has grown large enough that it is ready for splitting.

When potting teretes and semi-teretes in containers, Mark uses a charcoal medium rather than bark or moss. For hanging vandas, Mark like putting them in baskets with no medium. They can stay in these baskets for years with no need to re-pot. Hono Hono and similar varieties like growing horizontally

with their sprays draping down.



In response to the many questions, Mark offered the following thoughts:

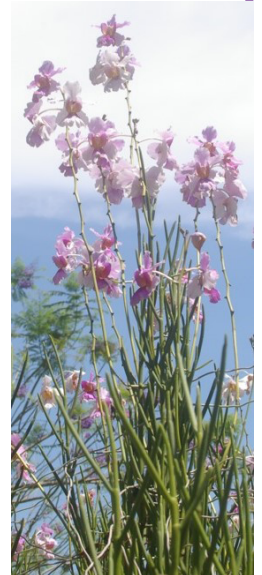
Vandas in general like full sun, especially the terete and semi-teretes. Vandas grown outdoors in the full sun will tend to have shorter stalks than those grown indoors.

Need to remove a leaf? Split it lengthwise to make removing the two halves easier.

Vandas are heavy feeders and like fertilizer. Fertilize vandas weekly with a evenly balanced fertilizer such as Peters 20/20/20. He prefers a liquid fertilizer to mix with water and spray the plants.

To treat for bugs such as thrips, aphids or mealy bugs, use soap and water to spray and wash the leaves. Spray with Neem oil or orthene, but not in the middle of the day.

Treat fungus with fungicide or hydrogen peroxide to clean and remove rot. Spray or sprinkle alcohol or cinnamon as a preventative.



*Miss Joaquim
terete Vanda*





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American Orchid Society - July/August Seasonal Checklist:

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/july-august-checklist.aspx>



GIOS T-Shirts Still Available

Our GIOS T-shirt is still available for purchase. These are wonderful, high quality crew neck T-shirts with the GIOS logo on the front and are available in a variety of sizes.

The T-shirts are available for only \$15 and are great for members and to give as gifts. They also provide funding that supports the operation of the club.

To purchase a shirt, please send an e-mail to President@gardenislandorchidsociety.org.

2023 Membership Dues Are Due

Membership dues for 2023 are only \$20 and are now due. Benefits of membership include:

Participation in the upcoming Spring and Summer Orchid Shows

Continued receipt of the GIOS newsletter

A keiki orchid door prize at every General Meeting you attend

Download the membership form here and mail it in, or complete the form at the next meeting:

<http://www.gardenislandorchidsociety.org/about/MembershipForm.pdf>