

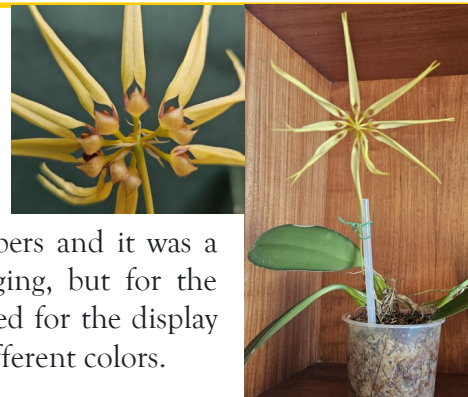
Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

March - April 2024

President's Message

Aloha everyone! I hope you have lots of orchids blooming this spring.

In this message, I want to talk about our Spring Orchid Show & Sale. Our last show was in the Spring of 2019. It was a wonderful success, as were all of the previous ones. Our club had over 100 members and it was a chance for those members to bring their orchids in, not only for judging, but for the enjoyment of our community. The number of orchids that were submitted for the display filled the church hall. We had many different types in an abundance of different colors.



Today we look back and see how our membership was affected by the pandemic. Over the last four years we have lost members for a variety of different reasons. We now need to provide a reason for new and old members to join us. Your Board and I think putting on the Spring Orchid Show & Sale is a great reason. Your Board, with the support of you, decided to charge forward and bring it back.

To do this, we need the help of all of you and many folks in the community who support our organization. As members there are three things you can do to help our Society. **First**, we need your blooming orchids for the display. **Second**, we need your time as volunteers to work the show. **Third**, please invite and encourage all of your neighbors and friends to visit the show. Not only will they be able to enjoy the display, but there will be lots of baked goods, and a large variety of orchids and orchid supplies available for purchase. In addition we are bringing back the Lucky Drawings where you can win orchids and other fun items. Finally, we plan on bringing the Plant Doctor sessions back and will have one or two demonstrations on Saturday.

To make this all happen, we will have signup sheets for volunteers at our upcoming April 5 meeting. Volunteers are needed to set up, provide security during the show, sell crafts, sell plants, staff the food booth, and then tear down/clean up. There will also be a signup sheet to provide baked goods. So, as we go forward, I hope that you take advantage of this opportunity and enjoy the benefits of belonging to and participating in the Garden Island Orchid Society.

The orchid above is a Bulb. Mastersianum x surigaense from my house. It is just beautiful!
See you all soon! — Elizabeth

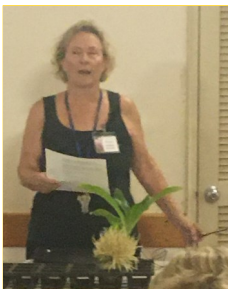
Upcoming Events

Next General Meeting: The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Friday, April 5, 2024** beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

2024 General Meeting Schedule: General meetings are scheduled for April 5, June 14, August 9, October 11, and December 6 at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

2024 Events: ***SPRING ORCHID SHOW & SALE*** at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#) April 12 & 13

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



February General Meeting

Elizabeth called the meeting to order. Walt gave the Treasurer's Report stating the bank balance was down a little, the checking account was converted to a free account, and the insurance policy was renewed. The report was approved.



2023 - 2024 Officers

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

Old Business

Fundraising items are still available for sale — cookbooks, t-shirts, and pot cozies

There are many open Board positions for any who want to volunteer. Please contact Elizabeth.

A recap of December's Holiday Party was provided.

Keiki door prizes were awarded to every member in attendance as well as members who brought orchids for the display table.



New Business:

The GIOS newsletter distribution was converted to e-mail only to reduce costs. Anyone needing a printed copy should contact Elizabeth.

The Spring Orchid Show & Sale dates have been set for April 12 & 13. This moves the April general meeting backward to April 5. Please note these dates in your calendar.

At the Spring Show we will not be serving lunch, but instead have a Bake Sale fundraiser. Please consider making something for the Bake Sale. Also consider volunteering for one or several activities before, during or after the show. Signups will be at the April 5 meeting or contact Elizabeth.



The [Windward Orchid Society](#) of Oahu held their Spring Show & Sale on March 22–24 in Kaneohe.

Orchiata Bark Giveaway

Kauai Irrigation Supply generously donated four bags of Orchiata orchid bark for us to put in smaller baggies and sell as a fundraiser at the Spring Orchid Show & Sale.

They also donated one bag of bark to be raffled off at our April 5 meeting to a lucky member attending the meeting.

Thanks to the gracious people at Kauai Irrigation Supply for their donation and support of GIOS.



2024 Membership Special

Between now and up through the June 14, 2024, General Meeting, GIOS is offering a 2 for 1 membership special. Now your membership dues of \$20 not only sign you up, but also a second person of your choice. The [Membership Form](#) is available from the home page of the GIOS website. Fill it out and send it in with your payment, or register in person at the April meeting, Spring Orchid Show & Sale, or June meeting.



Setting Up Micro-Climates

Neill Sams



Neill Sams of [Orchid Alley](#) was our guest speaker. He spoke about how setting up micro-climates in your growing area can provide better growing environments for a wider variety of orchids. He encouraged us to think vertically and more efficiently use our growing space. By setting up the right micro-climates, anyone can grow even the more exotic orchids successfully.

If you think vertically, you can change the amount of shade (less shade up top and more shade down low), vary the watering (less up and more down), and manage the wind flow (more up top and less down low) at various heights in your growing area to create environments that specific orchid types like. Click on the orchid's name to go to the American Orchid Society Culture Sheet for that orchid.



Orchids at the top include [vandas](#), [dendrobiums](#), [grammatophyllums](#)

Orchids in the middle include [oncidiums](#), [cattleyas](#), [brassavolas](#), and [miltonias](#)

Orchids that do well low include [bulbophyllums](#)



Here are some other tips and suggestions from Neill:

If an orchid is not doing well, re-pot it and put it in a new location.

Try [vandas](#) in clear pots, not green pots. This will help the roots with photosynthesis.

[Grammatophyllums](#) like around 50% shade.

[Bulbophyllums](#) like to be damp all the time. Don't let them dry out. Try growing them in clear pots with sphagnum moss. Set the pot in a saucer of water to keep the humidity level up.

[Paphiopedilum](#) like cooler temperatures and moisture. To create a micro-climate, he blows a fan across trays of water at the lady slippers which lowers the nearby temperature and increases the humidity.

[Cattleyas](#) like wind but not much water.

[Phalaenopsis](#) like more shade.

Orchid Alley has several greenhouses with a variety of different micro-climates in each. In general, each greenhouse starts with a 50% shade cloth up top. The greenhouses are set up with automated misters and sprinklers. In the summer these may run for short periods of time two or three times a day. In the winter, watering is reduced to every other day.

Neill sprays chemicals about once per week. He sprays from the bottom of the plants up to get the underside of the leaves. He uses Safari for scale, Abamectin for mites and thrips, and Clearys 3336 as a fungicide.





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American Orchid Society Article:
[March and April Orchid Checklist \(aos.org\)](http://aos.org)



GIOS T-Shirts Still Available

GIOS T-shirts are still available for purchase. Available in a variety of sizes, these are high quality crew neck t-shirts with the GIOS logo on the front.

End of Year Sale Extended: Two for \$20!

The t-shirts are normally \$15 each and are great for members to wear or to give as gifts to other orchid lovers. Funding from the shirts supports the operation of the club.



GIOS Cookbook For Sale

The GIOS Cookbook is still available for purchase. One of our Society's largest fund raisers, this cookbook is filled with favorite recipes from many of our members along with photos of beautiful orchids. You have probably eaten some of these delicious dishes at one of our pot luck dinners. Give one to a friend!

End of Year Sale Extended: Two for \$15!

