

Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

July - August 2024

President's Message

A big Mahalo to member James Keach who spoke to us at our June 14 meeting. We normally don't have a speaker scheduled at a meeting when we have a hands on re-potting session. However, with so many new members joining after our April orchid show, we wanted to provide a little extra for the meeting.

James gave us a lot of good information and he left us wanting more. See a summary of his talk on page 3 of this newsletter, as well as a link to his slide presentation. We'll be sure to look for more opportunities in the future for James to share his wealth of orchid knowledge.

I hope everyone enjoyed digging in and getting some of your orchids re-potted. Some of the ones I saw sure looked like they could use some TLC.

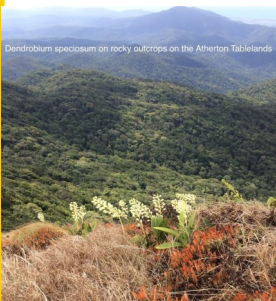
We have another great speaker scheduled for the upcoming August 9 meeting. Look for information on the next page of this newsletter. Finally, here are some cattleyas from my garden.

See you soon,

Elizabeth

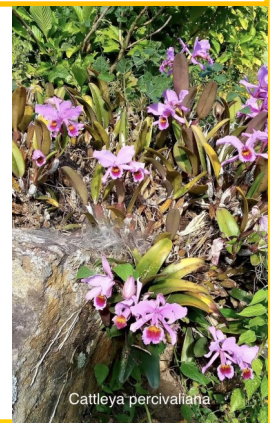


Next Meeting: Orchids in Situ & How I Grow My Orchids



Dennis Olivas will show and discuss orchids growing in various climates and conditions in the wild. Then he will show his collection growing in an unheated greenhouse in Daly City and outside in Pleasant Hill.

Born on Kauai, Dennis Olivas grew up growing orchids, first as a boy with his mom and aunt, and then as an adult. Dennis belongs to over 14 orchid societies and assists them whenever possible.



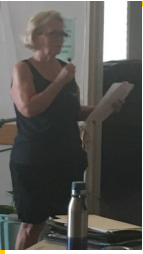
Upcoming Events

Next General Meeting: The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Friday, August 9, 2024** beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

Upcoming General Meeting Schedule: General meetings are scheduled for August 9, October 11 (Elections), December 6 (Holiday Party), February 14 2025, and April 4 2025 at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

Upcoming Events: Grove Farm Show at Kukui Grove Center – August 16 (5-7pm) & 17 (10:30am-4pm)
GIOS Spring Show & Sale – April 11 & 12, 2025

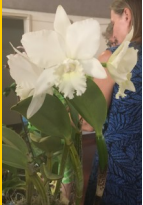
The Garden Island Orchid Society is affiliated with the [American Orchid Society](#).



June General Meeting

Elizabeth called the meeting to order. She thanked everyone for coming. Last meeting's minutes were approved. As Walt could not attend, Elizabeth also gave the Treasurer's Report, reporting a balance of just over \$10,000. The Treasurer's Report was also approved.

Old Business:



The Spring Show was a big success! Thanks for everyone who participated and helped out. We also want to welcome all the new members who joined the Society at the Spring Show.

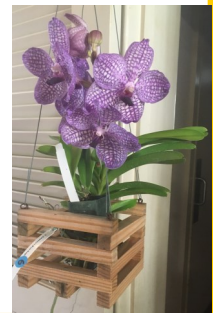
Keiki orchid door prizes were awarded to every member in attendance as well as members who brought orchids for the display table, some of which are shown here.



New Business:

This year is an election year for the GIOS Board and Chair positions. We will begin discussing positions and duties at the August General Meeting and ask for members to volunteer themselves for positions they are interested in. See more details later in this newsletter.

Michelle Fastenau has volunteered to be the Acting Vice-President. Thank you Michelle!



2023 - 2024 Officers

President:

Elizabeth Borchelt

Vice-President:

Michelle Fastenau

Secretary:

Kimberlee Kain

Treasurer:

Walt Weiss

Ex-Officio:

Teri Nakamoto

Next Meeting: Orchids in Situ & How I Grow My Orchids

Dennis Olivas will show and discuss orchids growing in various climates and growing conditions in the wild. Then he will show his collection growing in an unheated greenhouse in Daly City and outside in Pleasant Hill.

Born on Kauai, as a lad Dennis helped his mom and aunt grow their orchids and got hooked. He joined the Future Farmers of America where his project was raising and selling these beautiful and exotic plants. In 1980 he moved to the mainland and swore off the orchid family; not for long though, as he was introduced to the Rod McLeallan's Acres of Orchids'. From there his whole life became an obsession. First he filled his home with upwards of 6,000 plants. Then he leased space for his burgeoning orchid collection, which soon overflowed the 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse in Half Moon Bay. With the help of friends, he moved his obsession to a 3,000 sq. ft. greenhouse in Daly City in November of 2013. This presented a whole new ball game of learning how to raise orchids, still without heat, but in an area that gets more sun, higher temperatures, and good water year round. Currently, Dennis rents a 5,500 sq. ft. unheated greenhouse space as his collection increases.

Dennis has been President of the Peninsula Orchid Society, San Francisco Orchid Society, Diablo View Orchid Society and the Santa Cruz Orchid Society. He is an accredited judge of the American Orchid Society for over 30 years. Dennis belongs to over 14 orchid societies and tries to assist them whenever possible. He travels throughout the United States to speak to numerous orchid societies and garden clubs, even traveling to Brazil to speak. Since 1988 he has been an orchid vendor, showing in up to twenty shows a year throughout California and Nevada.

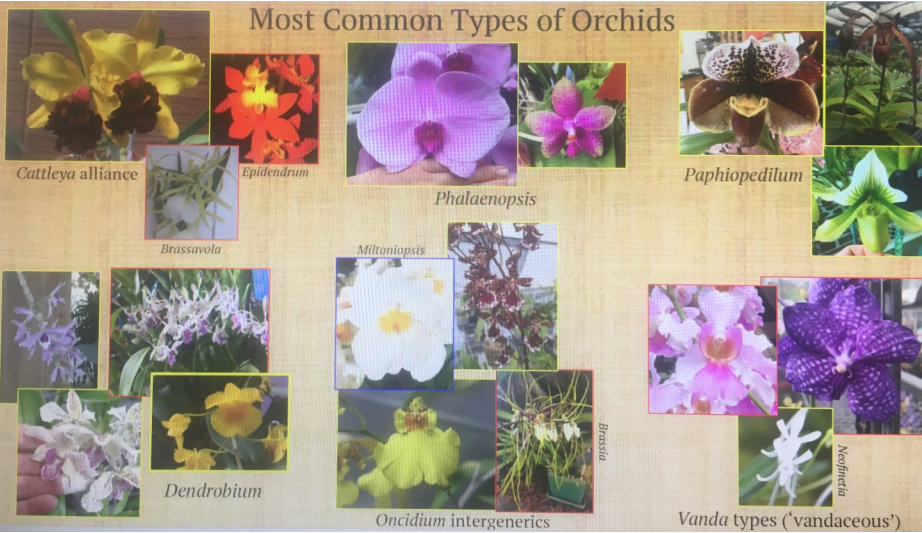


Dennis in his greenhouse

Orchids 101 – James Keach

James made a shortened version of a presentation he has prepared and given to others titled [Orchids 101](#). Following are a few slides and highlights from his presentation. To view the full presentation please click on the title above.

Most Common Types of Orchids



The orchid family has 25,000 to 30,000 species and can be found on every continent and most climates. They can be both terrestrial, growing on the ground, and epiphytic, growing on something else like a tree.

There are 3 orchids that are native to Hawaii: *Platanthera holochila* (now endangered), *Anoectochilus sandvicensis*, and *Liparia hawaiiensis*.

Orchid species and genus can all inter-combine, creating a huge number of hybrids. Primary hybrids are between two species while intergeneric hybrids can be between two and three genera. Orchid labels list the genus, species and clonal name. If the orchid is a cross of hybrids, the label will list the female parent first, followed by an X, then the male parent.

Orchid Family Traits



The two most common orchid questions:

Why isn't my orchid flowering?

Likely answers:

- Light is too low
- It needs fertilizer
- It's stressed
 - Although some flower when stressed as a last attempt to reproduce before dying!
- It needs an environmental signal
 - Temperature
 - Water
 - Seasonal



Help! My orchid is dying! What's wrong?

Likely answers:

- It's too wet
 - Roots are suffocating
 - Environment favors rots
- The media is old and needs to be replaced
- Salt buildup
 - High fertilizer use
 - Accumulation on media/pot
 - Especially with porous pots like cement or clay
 - Proximity to the ocean



Each type of orchid prefers a different mix of culture to thrive, meaning its lighting, temperature, water and fertilizing needs should be understood and managed appropriately. Re-potting should be done roughly every 2-3 years.

At the left are general answers to the two questions James is most often asked.

Fun With Re-potting

Following James Keach's very informative Orchids 101 presentation, the group moved on to a re-potting session. Some members brought quite a few plants in that needed re-potting. There was lots of help and advice available and everyone walked away with happier orchids in fresh medium and sometimes larger pots.



It took a team to deal with this large overgrown orchid

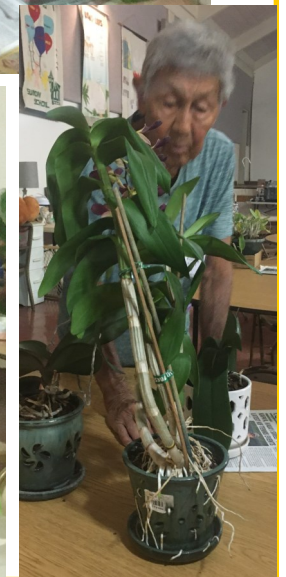
Above - first taking it out of its pot, then examining it closely to determine where best to split it, and after carefully arm wrestling the orchid to separate it into three pieces

Below - cleaning up the three pieces and beginning the re-potting process

At right - two of the orchid sections happily re-potted and ready to thrive!



Meanwhile, other industrious people were busy with re-potting efforts of their own as shown in the photos below



2024 Spring Orchid Show Winning Orchids

The following pages are of the remaining first place prize winners at the Show. We'll start with Paphiopedilums, Cattleyas, and Others. But once again, the Best In Show!

Brassidium Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara' HCC/AOS

Rebecca Indvik
Oncidium Alliance



Paphiopedilums



Paph Perfect spots 'giant Winston'
x Thunder Cat 'sizzler'
Orchid Alley



Paph Callosum x Thailandense
Maudiae hybrid
Orchid Alley



Paph roths 'Jungle Selected' x
roths 'Atlantis' SM/TPS
species
Orchid Alley



Paph Prince Edward of York
multifloral hybrid
Orchid Alley

Cattleyas & Cattleya Alliance



C. Wanda Patterson
Mark Edlund
Cattleya white



Pot. Cindy Yamamoto x Own Holmes
Carol Kanna
Cattleya red

Encyclical
Cordigera –
species
Mark Edlund



2024 Spring Orchid Show Winning Orchids (continued)

Cattleyas & Cattleya Alliance (continued)



(Pacific girl 'Primaver AM x
Pacific Tomato 'Ojai Smoothie)
Elizabeth Borchelt
Candy Or orange



Cayletonia Why Not AM/AOS species
Mark Edlund



Ett. Volcano Trick 'Volcano Queen' - red
Caryn Sakahashi



Epi (Pacific Pinwheel 'Fiesta Nights' x
Pacific Prince 'Good Shot')
'Chinese Red #2-Pink
Elizabeth Borchelt



Epi Glacier Peak - white
Elizabeth Borchelt

2024 Spring Orchid Show Winning Orchids (continued)

Other Genera



Lysudamulosa (LYS.) Red Jewel 'Hilo Girl'
Orchid Alley



Zygonisia Cynosure 'Blue Birds'
Carol Kanna



Maxillaria tenuifolia
Stella Shimatsu



Dendrochilum Glumaceum
Orchid Alley



Bulb. Echiolabio mix x no id
Orchid Alley

GIOS Board & Committee Positions

At our October General Meeting we will be electing the 2025-2026 Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons. Some incumbents have already committed to returning for another term, but many positions will be open.



The term for our existing officers and chairpersons ends in December 2024. The Board will review the slate for 2025-2026 in September and upon approval, the slate will be posted in the October newsletter with elections to be held at the October meeting. Additional nominations for any office may be made from the floor at the October meeting but the nominees must be present or if absent, written consent provided before their nomination. If you have an interest in any position, contact Elizabeth Borchelt or another officer. Each position generates Makana points that can be redeemed at our December meeting.

Below are the Chair positions that currently do not have a volunteer identified and are available for your consideration, along with summary descriptions below. Detailed descriptions will be available at the August meeting.

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| * Secretary | * Membership | * Show Chair | * Show Judging |
| * Refreshments | * Photographer | * Show Display | * Makana |
| * By-Laws | * Publicity | * Craft Sales | * Audio/Visual |

Secretary: Responsible to keep accurate minutes and attendance of Board members at all Board meetings; Maintain a society calendar; Conduct all official correspondence; Take minutes at all General Meetings.



Membership: Maintain a list of member's names and contact information; Collect membership dues; Distribute and collect name tags at General Meetings.

Show Chair: Oversees all activities related to the Shows; Recruit Show team, assigns tasks, provides overall project management; Responsible for the Show from set up through tear down.



Show Judging: Responsible for recruiting and managing judges for all Shows; includes making travel arrangements and coordinating with photographer; compiles and distributes list of winners.

GIOS Board & Committee Positions (continued)



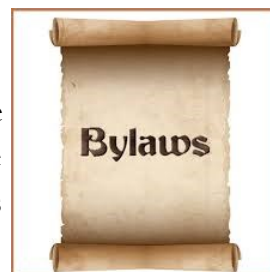
Show Display: Responsible for the display at the Shows. This includes: Design the display in accordance with the show theme, coordinate with a nursery, if trees and or ferns need to be rented; Plan out a list of props and supplies needed and assure that everything will be available and ready to assemble at the show site on the designated set-up day; Provide direction to set up and clean up volunteers.

Photographer: Responsible for the official GIOS photographs. This includes taking pictures at all general meetings, club functions and all first place winners at Shows for the newsletter.



Makana: Manage a reward program to assist the club in recruiting officers, chairpersons and workers. This includes: Conduct sign-ups for members to fill work shifts at Shows; Provide Show volunteer duties to members during sign-ups; Maintain a list of members and points earned; and at the December meeting, conduct the reward program, by providing various items for members to redeem their points.

By-Laws: Maintain a list of club policies and procedures as well as the by-laws of the Society. During an election year, the chairperson will seek out candidates for each office and at the same time, solicit the membership for volunteers to fill chairperson positions for all standing committees.



Publicity: Responsible for all club publicity. This includes: Notifying news media of upcoming meetings and or activities of the club; Providing publicity updates to the Newsletter Chair to include in newsletter and or GIOS website; Maintaining a publication list; and Providing publicity for the Shows.

Fundraising/Craft Sales: Plan and maintain an inventory of items to be sold to generate revenues for the club. This includes: Obtaining assistance from members and provide direction on creating items; and Managing the craft booth at Shows.



Audio/Visual: Responsible for maintaining and storing GIOS electronic equipment; Set up needed equipment in advance of meetings or presentations; collect electronic presentation material for presenter and GIOS use.



Thanks for considering joining the GIOS leadership team!





www.gardenislandorchidsociety.org

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Scan this QR code to go
to the GIOS website:



Stay connected with GIOS on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/gardenislandorchidsociety/>

American Orchid Society Article:
[July and August 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.

The t-shirts are \$15 each and are great for members to wear or to give as gifts to other orchid lovers.

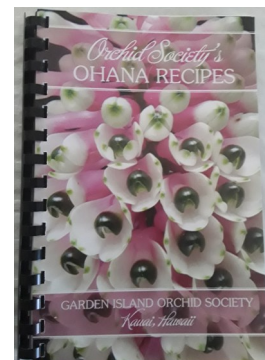
Funding from the shirts supports the operation of the club.



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.

The GIOS Cookbook is only \$10 each. Get one for yourself and give one to a friend!



Newsletter photos courtesy David Fastenau, Elizabeth Borchelt and Paul Brun