

Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

November - December 2024

President's Message

Aloha everyone,

I hope you are all looking forward to our upcoming Holiday meeting on December 7 as much as I am. Our last meeting of the year is a potluck where we can sit down to good food, visit, and celebrate our successful club and members. We have many new members who have not had the chance to participate in our year end celebration. This is the meeting to attend as all members will receive a blooming/budded door prize for just coming to the party.

We will be installing the new 2025-2026 GIOS officers, playing games for prizes, enjoying the potluck, and redeeming Makana points. We will also have raffle drawings for members who pay their 2025 membership dues at the December meeting.

I'm looking forward to 2025 with all of our new members volunteering for open positions and for all of our long-time members continuing to volunteer and share their extensive orchid knowledge.

Please join us at the December 7 Holiday Potluck, and as always, you are welcome to bring guests. Remember, if you have earned Makana points, you need to come to the meeting to redeem them for orchids and supplies.

See you at the potluck! Here are a couple of photos from last year's potluck.

Elizabeth



Next Meeting

Holiday Potluck — bring your favorite dish to share and your appetite, as well as items for the Food Drive!

Installation of 2025-2026 GIOS Officers

Upcoming Events

Next General Meeting: The next General Meeting is scheduled for **Saturday, December 7, 2024** beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

Upcoming General Meeting Schedule: General meetings are scheduled for December 7 (Holiday Party), February 14 2025, and April 4 2025 at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

Upcoming Events: GIOS Spring Show & Sale — April 11 & 12, 2025
at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#)

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

October General Meeting

Elizabeth called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for coming. Last meeting's minutes and Treasurer's Report were approved.

Old Business:

The list of 2025-2026 proposed officers was reviewed and approved. The new slate of officers will be installed at the December meeting. Thanks to all who volunteered.

Two positions are still open: Secretary and Publicity. Any interested members should contact Elizabeth.

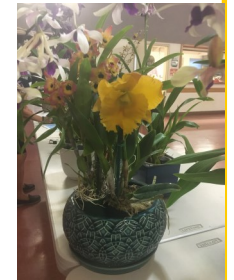
The August Farm Fair Show at Kukui Grove Mall was very successful. We had a great display, had good profit from plant sales, and welcomed several new members. Thanks to everyone who pitched in to make it a success.

A portion of the Farm Fair display



Keiki orchid door prizes were awarded to every member in attendance as well as to members who brought orchids for the display table (limit one orchid for every display table participant).

Display table orchids shown at left and right



New Business:

The GIOS Holiday Party is Saturday, December 7, at 6pm. It's a potluck celebration where we will enjoy great food, play fun holiday games for prizes, award 2024 Makana points, and install the incoming Board and committee members.

The GIOS Facebook site is now being managed and has lots of great information. Click on the Facebook logo at the right to like and follow GIOS!



Membership Dues

2025 Membership Dues

Membership dues of \$30 per person are now due for 2025. This is GIOS' first dues increase in over 12 years. People attending the December 7 Holiday Party can pay their dues at the door and be entered into a lucky drawing where at least three orchids will be awarded as prizes.

You can also print out the [GIOS Membership Form](#) and mail in your dues per the instructions.

Makana Points

For members who have earned Makana points in 2024 through volunteering for various activities, these will be awarded and redeemed at the Holiday Party. These Makana points can be exchanged for orchids, orchid supplies, and GIOS fundraising merchandise.

Members must be present at the Holiday Party to redeem their Makana points. 2024 Makana points do not roll over to 2025.





Preparing Your Vandas for the Spring Show Mark Edlund

Having grown and shown orchids for over twenty years, Mark shared with us some tips on preparing vandas for our 2025 GIOS Spring Show. Many of these tips are appropriate for any orchid species.



General Preparation



First, vandas should be placed and grown with their body facing south. This encourages the spikes to grow and blooms to open optimally for display and showing.

As spikes develop, stake them in a mostly upright position before any blossoms open to prevent damage to the flowers. Affix the spike to the stake with garden tape.



Stakes can be easily made from a firm wire, like ceiling wire hangers, and should be wrapped with black or dark green tape. Wrapping them “hides” the stakes better for judging which emphasizes the vanda and its flowers.

Rubbing Vaseline around the bottom of the vanda stalk helps prevent ants from traveling up the orchid. Sprinkle cinnamon after making any cuts or trimming leaves. It is an anti-bacterial and also discourages insects.

Fertilize your vandas every two weeks to encourage growth and flower development. Once blossomed, the flowers should last 4 to 6 weeks.

Pre-Show Preparation

If your vanda is hung with a wire hanger, remove the hanger.

Remove all insects and dead material from the vanda. Gently clean the leaves with a mild soap and water mixture. Take care around the spike and any blooms.



Soak the roots in water for 5-10 minutes until they are pliable. Gently wind the roots to fit in the display basket or pot of your choice. Fill in the pot with your choice of medium to secure the vanda in place and firmly hold the stake(s).

For travel to the show, gently separate blooms with cotton balls to keep them from brushing against each other.

Be sure to remove the cotton balls and any other packing material before placing your vanda on the display table.

Be proud that your vanda will display well and maybe even win an award.

After the Show

Carefully re-pack and take your vanda home. Enjoy the flowers for as long as they last. When the flowers are gone, rehang your vanda if it was hung and return it to its permanent location.





GIOS 2024 Food Drive

We are excited that the GIOS 2024 Food Drive will be shared directly with Kauai's veterans. GIOS is partnering with the Kauai members of [Connecting Consciousness](#), a global organization that perform humanitarian projects, and the [Kauai Veterans Center](#) to collect and distribute needed items to Kauai's over 200 veterans.



We are asking all who are interested and can support this cause to bring some of the following donations to the December 7 Holiday Party:

Non-perishable food items (organic preferred) such as rice, pasta, sauces, soups, ...

Individually wrapped treats for stocking stuffers such as nuts, fruit sticks, energy bars, trail mix,

Individually wrapped toiletries such as bar soap, toothpaste,

Our donations will be delivered to Connecting Consciousness who will wrap the food items and fill mesh stockings with the stocking stuffers. They will also include a hand signed Christmas card from both GIOS and Connecting Consciousness. These gifts will be available for pick up by the veterans the next week.

Thanks in advance for supporting this worthy cause!



RSVP For Holiday Party

If you are planning to come to the Holiday Party, please email newsletter@gardenislandorchidsociety.org and let us know who you are and how many are coming. We want to make sure we have enough door prizes and awards for everyone.



Thank you!



End Of Year Sale

We will have an End of Year Sale at the December 7 Holiday Party. All remaining t-shirts and cookbooks will be available at half price. You can use your Makana points to purchase any of our GIOS merchandise as well!

All remaining orchids and supplies will be sold at the end of the Party at discounted prices. Cash, check and credit cards are all accepted.





www.gardenislandorchidsociety.org

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to the GIOS website:

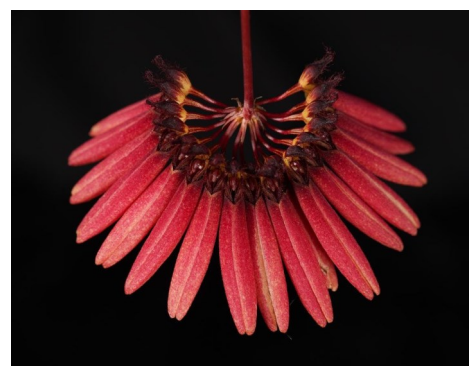


Stay connected with GIOS on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/gardenislandorchidsociety/>

American Orchid Society Article:

[Bulbophyllum Alliance](#)

Bulbophyllum zamboangense 'Whisper Smooth Moves' CHM/AOS



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.

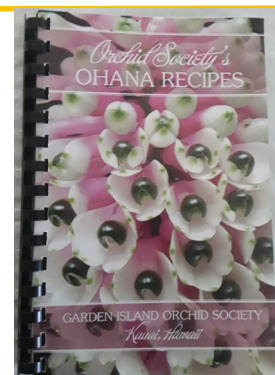
Funding from the shirts supports the operation of the club.



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 and Michelle Fastenau