



The GIOS newsletter is published by the Garden Island Orchid Society on a bi-monthly basis. Contact them at P. O. Box 1056, Hanapepe, HI 96716. www.gardenislandorchidsociety.org

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Coming Events

General Meeting August 8, 2008

Our General Meeting will be held at the United Church of Hanapepe and our speaker will be Mark Blitz of Maui. The subject for the evening will be "All you Wanted to Know about Cattleyas". Mark will be starting the evening at 6:30 and will conduct a hands-on workshop showing how to properly tag, divide and diagnose problems and how to repot and groom your plants. Thus, he will be the speaker for the entire evening.

We will also have a short discussion on plans for the Kauai County Farm Bureau Fair "Orchids in Paradise" show so please attend.

Group Tour of Kauai Orchid Nurseries. October 18. We will be visiting Hanalei Orchids, Orchid Alley and Yamada Nurseries. Watch the next issue of this newsletter for more details.

Tour to San Diego April 10-13, 2009. We will visit the San Diego nurseries and attend their Spring Orchid show. Call Gwen Teragawa for more information.

Please note that there has been a change in the Kauai Farm Bureau Fair Schedule - The dates are now August 28, 29, 30 and 31.

Please check our Club Website at: www.gardenislandorchidsociety.org. Click on each category. Tell your friends.

President's Message

Our Farm Fair will be on August 28 - 31, 2008. We would greatly appreciate all the help for plant sales and security for the display.

The security is just to watch for people who don't look at the "DO NOT TOUCH" signs and to pass out our flyers with information of our club for those who may want to join us.

The plant sales people sell plants of course and answer questions about the plants and orchid growing.

On our set-up date August 27, 2008 we will need help to place the plants and cover the pots with moss. Dinner will be catered by Marks Place. No Makana points will be given for set up,

Our break-down and clean-up day is Sunday, August 31st at 3:30 p.m. and who ever comes out to clean up will receive Makana points. So sign up for Makana points on the day of clean up.

Gwen Teragawa, President

The Orchids in Paradise 2008 Theme will be Tutu's Orchid Garden

Listed below is the Schedule for the Garden Island Orchid Society participation for the Kauai Farm Bureau Fair 2008:

Set-up is on Wednesday, August 27 beginning about 10:00 a.m. Plants are to be delivered from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. The setup of Tutu's Orchid Garden will be done by Anne Notley and Carol Yasutake and their spouses. However, we will need volunteers to come by at 3:00 p.m. to help place the orchids.

We will also need volunteers for security and orchid sales so please sign up at the August General Meeting.

Dinner will be provided at 5:30.

Judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. and last until about noon on Thursday August 28.

Show times:

August 28 - 6:00 p.m. to midnight

August 29 - 12:00 noon to midnight

August 30 - 12:00 noon to midnight

August 31 - 12:00 noon until about 3:30 p.m. when we will breakdown. (The rides are open until 11:00 p.m.)



*AM/AOS - Best of Show 2007
- Miltonia Neifert's Gem -
Owner David Neifert of
Hanalei Orchids*

We need you:

To help with Set-up in the afternoon.

To help with Security during the show

To help with the Plant Sale*

Maryetta Scuito Presents "Growing Orchids as a Hobby"

We would like to thank Maryetta Scuito of Maui for her Power Point presentation on Growing Orchids as a Hobby, and her detailed handouts that are reprinted below. This was a Potluck Evening and the GIOS members did themselves proud.

Five Basic Factors Influence the Growth of your Plants

1. **Water:** quality, quantity and frequency
2. **Air:** quality and movement, for gas exchange
3. **Nutrition:** fertilize, vitamins, alcohol
4. **Temperature**
5. **Sunlight:** The energy that makes food for the plant (photosynthesis).

Water

- Hand watering vs. irrigation system. Key: that all parts of the plants are adequately watered.
- Frequency: really dependent on the other four factors and how they interrelate in your area
- Watering in the morning helps avoid heat stress. The evaporation will cool orchids and increase humidity.
- Always water thoroughly so it flushes through the pot bottom. Never allow the plant to sit in accumulated water.
- Most orchids are killed by over watering...never from an infrequent lack of water.

Air

- Orchids do not like stagnant air.
- You want fresh, moving air-day and night. They grow 24 hours a day. **DO NOT OVERCROWD YOUR PLANTS.** Keep areas around and below growing benches plant and weed free.

Nutrition

- "Weakly, weekly."
- There are as many answers to "What should I fertilize with?" as there are growers.
- Water your plants thoroughly before you foliar feed your plants... they will absorb more of the fertilizer.

Fertilizer Basics

- NPK Ratio:
- Nitrogen (N): promotes stem & leaf growth. Be sure from ammonical and/or nitrate form, not urea form of nitrogen for orchids.
- Phosphorus (P): promotes flowering
- Potassium (K): promotes strong roots, stem rigidity and disease resistance.

A balanced, ie.: 20-20-20, fertilizer is good for most mediums used to grow orchids.

Temperature/Humidity

We are blessed in Hawaii in that we do not have to control these elements. It does affect what we can choose to grow and flower, but we do not have to heat or cool our greenhouses. We may need to adjust other factors as our season changes and temperatures fluctuate: ex. frequency of water/fertilizer. Low 60's to 80's in temperature and 60-90% humidity is ideal for most orchids.

Sunlight and Shade

Ideal lighting for maximum growth is a full day of unobstructed sunlight (away from tall trees and buildings) with 60-65% shade. This can be accomplished with shade cloth, wooden lath (lattice), dyna-glass, or combinations of these. Some orchids require more or less shade.

References:

"*Beginners Start Here*" by Ken Slump, AOS Orchids Magazine March 2007 pg.178

"Fidgeting: The Little Changes that Make a Big Difference" by Carol Siegel

"*Orchids 101*":pg. 148 Orchid Digest July, Aug. Sept. 2007

Maryetta Recommends:

Supply Vendor List:

Local vendors: pots, bark, pesticides, fertilizers, spray pumps, gloves, trays, stakes, etc.:

Home Depot

Mail Order:

Charley's Greenhouse & Garden, 1-800-322-4707 or www.charleysgreenhouse.com

Misting nozzle, item 6033, \$3.00 each
PVC connecting "T", item 6045, \$1.40 each
Assorted supplies for gardening and orchids

OFE International: www.ofe-intl.com or 1-888-633-4685
Large assortment of orchid growing supplies, cork slabs, tree fern slabs and pots, hangers, sphagnum moss, etc.

Maryetta's favorite books for beginners and beyond:

"*The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Orchid*", Alee Pridgeon

"*All About Growing Orchids*", by Ortho Books

"*Ultimate Orchid*", by Thomas J. Sheehan

"*Growing Orchids*", by Brian and Wilma Rittershausen

"*Botanica's Orchids*", over 1,200 species listed. Laurel Glen Publishing

"*Orchids, Care and Cultivation.*" Gerald Leroy-Terquem & Jean Parisot

Orchid Journals:

"*Orchids*" Journal of the American Orchid Society. Published monthly. Available with Membership to AOS...\$60.00 per year. Go to www.aos.org to join.

"*Orchid Digest*". Published quarterly. \$34.00 per year. Go to www.orchiddigest.org

"*The Orchid Review*" Royal Horticultural Society. Published 6x per year. Approx. \$73.00 per year (mailed from the UK). Go to www.rhs.org.uk, at the bottom of the home page click on "RHS Publications" under "Learning", then click on "RHS Journals"

Orchid Websites of Interest

www.orchidspecies.com Comprehensive site with a photo encyclopedia and lots of good cultural information about species orchids.

www.orchidladv.com Good site with definitions of orchid terminology, articles and photographs of orchids of many genera.

www.aos.org The American Orchid Society web page. More extensive site available to members. Has links to sites for purchase of orchid books.

Orchid vendors usually have lots of information, photographs and articles at their websites. It's worth "googling" a topic or surfing for information

Members and Guests enjoy our famous potluck dinner. Photos by Lenora Sorensen.



The potluck.



Display orchids.

A Spectacular Orchid Show at Moir Gardens in Poipu

The next time you are in the vicinity of Poipu, drop in at Kiahuna Plantation Restaurant to see one of the most beautiful floral displays on the island. Ben Melchor, who is a gardener at Kiahuna, has planted and nurtured over 1,000 orchids in the historical Moir Gardens. Although most of them are Dendrobium orchids planted in rock, there are a few cattleya and phalaenopsis growing under the trees as well. Most of the plants were given to Ben by visitors as they left the island and Ben has been lovingly planting and caring for them as a hobby—you normally find him around the estate looking after the irrigation system. He refers to the orchids as his “babies”.

They were all in full bloom in June but there are still plenty to admire as of this writing—July 26th. Kiahuna plantation and the entrance to the restaurant and Moir Gardens is across from the Poipu Shopping Center. Coming from the Poipu By-Pass Road and on to Poipu Road, you turn left across from the entrance to the shopping village. Joe’s on the Green and the Kiahuna Golf Club Entrance is to the right.

Stroll at your leisure and you might want to try a cocktail and or dinner at the Plantation Restaurant.

by Ada Koene



Several of the orchids would be prize winners at our shows.



Your editor and neighbor Sandi Hulst.





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