



Newsletter of

# *The Garden Island Orchid Society*

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society

November - December 2009

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](http://www.gardenislandorchidsociety.org)

## **GIOS Board 2008/2009**

President: Gwen Teragawa  
Vice Pres. Allen Yamada  
Secretary: Carol Kanna  
Treasurer: Bob King  
Ex Officio: Bob King  
News/Publ: Ada Koene, 742-0333,  
[thekoenes@cs.com](mailto:thekoenes@cs.com)  
Membership: Judy Matsumoto  
By Laws: Nancy Nakama  
Awards: Mildred Konishi

## **General Meetings 2008/2009:**

December 5 (Saturday)

### **Show Dates:**

Spring Fantasy 2010 - March 26 and 27.

## **In this issue**

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## **Coming Events**

**December 5, 2009 - General Meeting - Christmas Party** at the United Church of Christ in Hanapepe starting at 6:00. Our Christmas Party will be held on a Saturday night this year because of scheduling conflicts. The party will be catered and the price will be \$15.00 per person, guests included.

There will be no grab bag this year as we will be handing out Makana Awards so please check the list in the following pages. If you have earned points, be sure to be there to pick up your awards, or ask a friend to pick them up. Please do not bring your display plants at this time.

Call Gwen Teragawa at 335-3890 if you can help set up for this party and take the tables down after the dinner. We need a couple of strong guys for this.

**Please RSVP to Gwen at 335-3890 or 482-0704 or Susie Kaohi at 335-3320 or 652-2947 by December 2, 2009 if you are coming. If they are not home, leave a message.**

Bring your check of \$15.00 for membership dues for 2010. We will also be selling orchids for wholesale prices after the show if you are interested.



## **President's Message**

I would like to thank those of you who helped me and the Board members for the past two years. Your participation and hard work at the Spring and Fall shows has been greatly appreciated. I also want to thank those who were not able to help this year but for simply being members of our club and helping us to grow.

Carol Kanna will be your President for 2010 – 2011 and I ask for your continued support for Carol. Thank you Carol and your new board members for volunteering and thank you to those who have stepped forward to fill some of the committee chair positions.

I hope to see you all at the Christmas party. If you have earned Makana points and will not be at the Christmas party, please let a friend pick up the things that you would want with your points.

Gwen Teragawa

## Leonard Gines on Ascocendas and Vandas

The Garden Island Orchid Society members were happy to welcome back from the Big Island, Leonard Gines. His talk for the evening was on Ascocenda and Vandas. He also brought with him some wonderful photos of these plants that he had photographed in Southeast Asia.

Leonard started his talk by saying he really wasn't going to give any new information but rather re-enforce what we already knew so it sticks in our minds.

Vandas are a genus in the sub-tribe family of sarcanthinae. Most Vandas are warm weather beasts and at one time Hawaii was the center of the world for breeding of Vanda and allied genera hybridizing. Then the Thais came over and bought the plants by the hundreds. In Leonard's opinion they are geniuses as they continued to line breed them. Singapore, Malaysia and Southern Florida are also taking up producing some fine plants.

Ascocentrum is a small genus, which resembles a compact Vanda. When fully grown they are about 6-8". The growers in Hawaii bred Ascocentrum with Vandas to create Ascocendas, which have a larger color range and bloom two to three times a year. According to Leonard, no other genera have the range and depth of colors that Vandas have.



Vandas have no water holding capacity like other orchids. Leonard says, "you need to water the crap out of them." Give them plenty of water. Water them again. With the first watering the roots just repel the water. The roots will start to change color to green and will start absorbing the water on the second watering. Water a third time after five to 15 minutes with a liquid fertilizer. He added that they are heavy feeders. Leonard asked that he be interrupted for questions and the audience complied.

**First question:** How long will the blooms last?

**Answer.** After they open the blooms should last about 2-3 weeks.

**Question:** What type of fertilizer do you use?

**Answer.** Two types are best. Our water is so pure that it doesn't have calcium and magnesium in it. The first fertilizer

should be a regular fertilizer with minerals, such as Miracle-Gro, using 1 teaspoon per gallon. Try for a 19-19-19, 20-10-20 or 15-16-17. The next time you water, use a Cal-Mag fertilizer, 14-0-14 or 15-5-15, again using 1 teaspoon per gallon.

**Question:** How often do you fertilize?

**Answer.** During the summer, fertilize on a weekly basis, but every 4th time, just flush with water to flush out all the salts. Some people feed constantly using ¼ - ½ tsp per gallon. There's more than one way to fertilize. Time release fertilizer won't hurt, but sometime it can be hit or miss. Sometimes it washes out without hitting the roots. Liquid fertilizer will be absorbed by the roots. Although, Leonard says sometimes he does cut up old tee shirts and wrap up the time release fertilizer in them to throw into pots.

Another point about fertilizing is to make sure you water first. If you fertilize without watering, the roots tips will be dry and it may burn the tips. It's important to water first to allow the roots to start drinking the water, then water a second time to allow the roots to really absorb the water and start to change color. Then the roots are ready to absorb the fertilizer.

During the winter time, cut back on the water, making sure they don't get too wet.

One secret to growing Vandas is that the root mass needs room. The more room the root mass has, the more liquid (water and fertilizer) it can absorb. In turn, it will flower more. If a Vanda is planted in a pot with bark, the good roots will be on the outside of the pot. Most likely the roots in the bark will be rotted. If you want a Vanda to be in a pot, it's best to plant it without any bark, maybe some rocks to stabilize the plant.

**Question:** Is there a point where they are too full or big?

**Answer.** They can get unwieldy. If they have been planted in a basket, the wood can rot away. The plastic pots last longer. However, there is no easy way to re-pot a Vanda. You can just attach a wire to the plant and hang it without potting it.

If it gets too top heavy or long, you can cut it. Look for two or three main roots, make your cut just under that and start over with this plant. Sometimes the bottom roots will produce keikis that can be planted.

Sometimes, the Vandas will also produce keikis from the bottom part of the plant or root system. You can let the keikis grow with the mother plant, or if a keiki has its own roots, you can cut them off and re-pot.

**Question:** Do you put your orchids outside?

**Answer.** Leonard says he uses many orchids outside as landscape plants. His rule is that he puts them outside and lets Mother Nature take care of them. When he was asked about watering them, especially when first put outside, he said he doesn't do anything special to them, no sphagnum moss, no watering when planted, and no fertilizing. If it rains for a month, they get watered for a month. If there's no rain, he doesn't water them. He pointed out that we probably kill as many inside as Mother Nature would outside. When asked how he "sticks them on a tree" he said if there's a fork in the branch, he just pushes them in there.

Sometimes he will use fish line, nylon hose or cotton twine to tie them onto the tree. The advantage to cotton twine is that it will rot away. The root will cling to the tree. He has also

heard of people nailing them to a tree.

**Question:** Don't Vanda's require full sun?

**Answer.** No, you go stand in the middle of your yard in the afternoon and see how you like it. If you find a place where you can feel comfortable in the middle of the day, you'd like to stay there, maybe sip a cold beer, then it's probably a great place to plant your orchid.

**Question:** Are there any trees that are too shady for orchids?

**Answer.** Not really, orange trees are good as are jabong trees. Plumeria trees are great, especially the older varieties that lose their leaves in the winter. These will provide great shade during the hot summer months and more sun during the winter.

Article by Linda Gerwick, Photos by Ada Koene



## New Leaders for GIOS

To everyone who signed-up on the preliminary interest sheet.....Thank you! You made filling open positions that much easier, but we still need a Secretary, Librarian and someone to do Orchids 101. If you are interested, please call Nancy at 338-1423.

President: Carol Kanna  
 Vice President: Gwen Teragawa  
 Secretary: Position Open  
 Treasurer: Lee Anderson

### Standing Committees (chairperson/co-chairperson)

Bulletin: Ada Koene  
 By-Laws: Ryan Metzger  
 Librarian: Position Open  
 Membership: Bobbie Agena/Marlene Domingcil  
 Plant Name Tags: Stella Shimatsu  
 Publicity: Ada Koene  
 Refreshments: Susie Kaohi/Mary Shimogawa  
 Spring Show Chr: Gwen Teragawa/Lorraine Kawane  
 Spring Show Disp: Anne Notley/Carol Yasutake  
 Fall Show Chair: Gwen Teragawa/Lorraine Kawane  
 Fall Show Display: Anne Notley/Carol Yasutake  
 Show Judging: Mildred Konishi/Evelyn Tsubakihara

### Special Committees

Crafts: Judy Matsumoto  
 Makana: Nancy Nakama  
 Orchids 101: Open Position  
 Orchid Care Work: Gwen Teragawa  
 T-shirts: Gayle & Bette O'Donnell/Crystal Lamon

## Makana Program

The purpose of this program is to promote a strong and healthy existence of GIOS, by rewarding our volunteers who step forward to guide and support our club. Currently officers = 25, Board members = 20, one work shift = 10, committee chairpersons = 20, and committee helpers = 10.

For all GIOS members, there will be lots of extra prizes to purchase at wholesale prices. Hopefully this program will also serve as an incentive for members to get involved in the future. Please double check this list. If you have questions or want to assign someone else to select your prizes for you, call Nancy at 3381423.

Member	Total	Office/Committee	Points
Bob King	65	Ex-Officio / Board	20
		Treasurer	25
		Show judging	20
Gwen Teragawa	185	President/Board	45
		Makana	20
		Nursery tour helper	10
		Refreshment helper	10
		Show chair (fall)	10
		Display chair (fall)	10
		Plant sales	10
		Tee shirt sales	10
		Food booth	40
		Show clean up	20
		Allen Yamada	105
Nursery tour	20		
Plant sales chair(fall)	10		
Show clean up	10		
Plant sales	20		
Carol Kanna	115	Secretary/Board	45
		Plant sales	10
		Food booth	40
		Show clean up	10
Evelyn Tsubakihara	100	Awards (co-chair)	10
		Plant name tag helper	10
		Food booth	40
		Show clean up	10
		Plant sales	30
Midred Konishi	140	Awards (co-chair)	10
		Plant name tag helper	10
		Board Member	20
		Plant sales	80
		Show clean up	20
Nancy Nakama	90	Makana	20
		By-laws	20
		Plant name tag	20
		Board Member	20
		Show clean up	10
Ada Koene	120	Bulletin	20
		Publicity	20
		Crafts	20
		Board Member	20
		Craft sales	40

Arie Koene	10	Bulletin helper	10	Roberta Agena	80	Security Greeter	40 40
Judy Matsumoto	130	Door prize	20	Margaret Makishi	10	Security	10
		Membership	20	Takako Decker	10	Tee shirt sales	10
		Board Member	20	Monroe Richman	10	Plant sales	10
		Crafts helper	10	Ilka Priest	40	Tee shirt sales	40
		T-shirt sales	20	Lee Anderson	40	Plant sales	20
		Security	10			Fall display helper	10
		Plant sales	10			Show clean up	10
		Show clean up	20	Neill Sams	20	Plant sales	20
Lorraine Kawane	140	Display table	20	Miyoko Mukai	70	Plant sales	60
		Plant sales	60			Show clean up	10
		Food booth	40	Betty Ihara	10	Security	10
		Show clean up	20	Ryan Metzger	10	Security	10
Anne Notley	60	Librarian	20	Stella Shimatsu	20	Security	20
		Show chair (spring)	10	Linda Gerwick	20	Tee shirt sales	10
		Show display (spring)	10			Bulletin helper	10
		Plant sales	10	Millie Fuertes	10	Show clean up	10
		Show cleanup	10	Bunga Fuertes	10	Show clean up	10
Carol Yasutake	20	Plant sale (spring)	10	Crystal Lamon	10	Tee shirt sales	10
		Show chair (spring)	10				
Susie Kaohi	120	Refreshments	20	Grand Total			2,120
		Security	30				
		Tee shirt sales	10				
		Food booth	40				
		Fall display helper	10				
		Show clean up	10				
Gayle O'Donnell	20	Tee shirts (co-chair)	10				
		Tee shirt sales	10				
Bette O'Donnell	70	Tee shirts (co-chair)	10				
		Tee shirt sales	40				
		Plant sales	10				
		Security	10				
Harold Shimono	30	Security	10				
		Technician	20				
Al Sugano	40	Orchids 101	20				
		Plant sales	10				
		Show clean up	10				
Amy Sugano	20	Tee shirt sales	10				
		Show clean up	10				
Morgan Lopez	20	Publicity helper	10				
		Plant name tag helper	10				
Sylvia Zeevat	70	Crafts helper	10				
		Craft sales	40				
		Plant sales	20				
Elizabeth Scamahorn	10	Plant sales	10				
Marlene Domingcil	60	Security	20				
		Greeter	40				
Flora Bukoski	10	Security	10				



# Garden Island Orchid Society Club Calendar



2010

January						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- Board Meeting
- General Meeting
- Orchid Shows (Spring Fantasy, Orchids in Paradise to be announced)