

Garden Island Orchid Society Newsletter

January - February 2025

President's Message

Happy New Year! I really enjoyed our Holiday Party and hope you all did too! From the feedback I've received, I think everyone went home happy and took along lots of new orchids. It was a time to celebrate 2024 and bask in our successes. Looking back, our general meetings brought excellent speakers and fun re-potting sessions. In addition, we were able to organize and deliver two orchid shows. I'm especially impressed with the August Farm Show Pop-Up where members stepped up to volunteer on very short notice.



This is a Haraella retrocalla x sib that I redeemed with my Makana points!

This was the first year GIOS fully embraced selling orchids at the shows. A lot of research and time was required to find orchid nurseries to buy from and to manage receiving large numbers of plants prior to the shows. In the past we've had up to four orchid vendors participating, however situations have changed. We are fortunate to have Orchid Alley continue their participation with us at our shows. I'd personally like to thank Michelle Fastenau for taking on the role managing the Plant Sales for the 2024 shows and sourcing the Makana orchids.

Now its time to focus on 2025. The Board and I are looking forward to working with members who want to take on new tasks that will improve our club's success going forward. We'd also like to spread the responsibilities, so we don't burn out members trying to do to much. We were fortunate in our October elections to have members willing to take on new roles.

See you all at our February meeting where Mark Edlund will share tips in preparing our orchids for the Spring Show, and offer comments and advice for orchids on the Display Table. We'll do some re-potting too!

Here are a few of my blooming orchids,
Elizabeth



Upcoming Events

Next General Meeting: Friday, February 14, 2025, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#).

2025 General Meeting Schedule: February 14, April 4, June 13, August 8, October 10, and December 6 at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#)

2025 Events: Spring Orchid Show – April 11 & 12 at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#)
Fall Orchid Show – August 15 & 16 at the [Hanapepe United Church of Christ](#)

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

December General Meeting

Elizabeth called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She described how the evening would proceed with the potluck, games, and Makana Point redemption.

New Business:

Donna Lambdin described the 2024 Food Drive and who we are supporting. She thanked everyone for their generous donations.

Stella Shimatsu thanked the 2023-2024 Officers and Chairs for their service. She then officially installed the new 2025-2026 Officers and Chairs and thanked them for volunteering.



2025 - 2026 Officers

President:
Elizabeth Borchelt
Vice-President:
Michelle Fastenau
Secretary:
Kim Schafer
Treasurer:
Walt Weiss
Ex-Officio:
Kimberlee Kain

December Holiday Potluck Party

Our GIOS Holiday Party was once again a big success. We had a great turnout and there were lots of fun, games, and delicious food.

As usual, an amazing selection of delicious food was shared



Dinner is served! Come and get it!

There's plenty to eat, so plan on coming back through the line for seconds.



People enjoying their dinner and chatting with friends! One of the best parts of the evening.



*Wow, those are full plates!
I won't tell who's they are*

2025 Membership Dues

2025 membership dues of \$30 are now due and can be paid at the February 14 meeting. Please renew for 2025 and tell any friends who might be interested in joining us! If you cannot make it, fill out the [Membership Form](#) and send it in with your payment.

Fun and Games

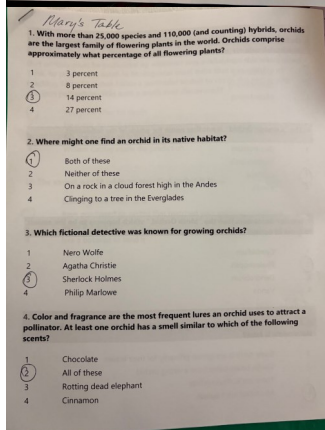
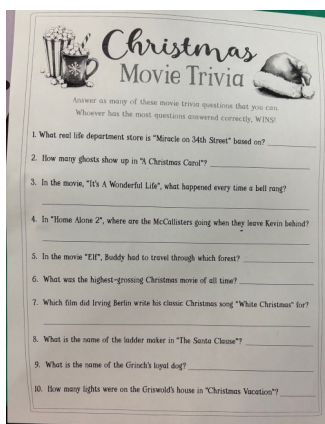
Elizabeth led the group in playing two exciting games, with winners getting to select from blooming orchids for their prizes.



Christmas Movie Trivia

Each table worked cooperatively to answer all the Christmas Movie Trivia questions as best they could. Some of these questions were hard, see the top page at the immediate right.

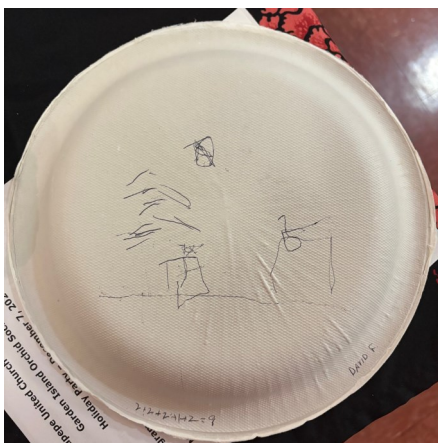
Three tables tied for the high score and then each worked to answer a set of orchid trivia questions. These questions were even harder. Some even stumped our resident orchid experts. See the bottom page at the immediate right. How many of these can you answer? Ultimately one team emerged victorious!



Here are some of the beautiful orchids that game winners could select their prizes from. Thanks Michelle for getting such an amazing selection for us to choose from!



One table working hard on their trivia questions! I wonder how many they got right.



Best Traditional Christmas Scene Artist

Put a paper plate on top of your head and draw a traditional Christmas scene bit by bit as per the instructions read out loud.

Not easy at all, but funny!

With nine points, this drawing by David Fastenau was the winner, believe it or not. There is a tree standing on the floor with a wrapped present underneath it on the left, and a fireplace with a stocking hung by care on the right. Please forgive the star tree topper that appears to be floating away.

Unofficial Best Costume

While we did not have a costume contest, I've awarded Randy Harker first prize as our unofficial Best Costume winner.

Hey Randy – for next year, how about a little fuller beard and a big belly?

We'll also want to hear your best "Ho, Ho, Ho!"



Makana Point Redemption

Another highlight of the evening was the redemption of our Makana Points, which were earned by members throughout the year for participating in one or several volunteer activities in support of the Society. Not only were beautiful orchids available for purchase with Makana Point, but also a selection of supplies.



Walt Weiss and Mia Steinberger all ready to help members redeem their Makana Points

Michelle Fastenau making sure all is ready for Makana Point redemption. Lots of amazing orchids and a wide selection of orchid supplies are all set out.



Notice the group of hono hono orchids at the left in the photo.

More on that later



Lots of great choices!

Hmmm, which ones want to go home with me?



And don't forget

... here are the lucky drawing prizes available for people who renewed their membership for 2025 at the Party and won the drawing.

Lots were given away!



Hono Hono Care



Were you one of the lucky ones who got a Dendrobium Anosmum (commonly called a Hono Hono in Hawaii) at our GIOS Holiday Party? If so, right about now their stems should be transitioning from having beautiful, lush green alternating leaves, to leaves that yellow, brown and drop, making the stems barren. The orchid's energy is redirecting to their pseudobulbs.



For Hono Honos, December through February is their dormant cycle when the temperature drops. Dormancy is a time for rest and restoration before buds begin to appear in March and April, and begin to bloom in April and May. Without a proper dormant period, flowering is poor due to the competition of energy and growth between the buds and the leaves.

The dormancy period is not the time to replant, repot, fertilize, expose to high temperatures or full sun, nor to "overwater." Now is the time to stop all fertilization and cut back on the water they receive. Stop applying liquid fertilizer and remove any extra time release fertilizer remaining in the media.

Monitor the water they receive. Hono Hono should receive water one to three times each week (depending on exposure to humidity and the extent of, or saturation from, watering). If they are outside, move or protect them from excess rain or supplement a lack of rainfall with clean water up to three times each week. It's important to ensure that the Hono Hono roots and media are dry between waterings, and that there is ample air circulation.

Hono Honos typically flower in March, April and May. Bud sprouts begin to emerge on alternate sides of the stems. Treat for any pests or diseases with insecticides and/or fungicides. Increase the frequency of watering to once daily when the buds are large and begin to open. New stem shoots will begin to grow at the base of the budding and flowering stems. Keep the roots moist when new canes emerge to enhance the health of the pseudobulb and longevity of next year's blooms.



We hope you are successful caring for your Hono Hono and getting lots of blooms. We are hoping that you will then bring your blooming orchid to the Spring Show for the display!

For additional information, check out this Hono Hono resource:

<https://akatsukaorchid.com/content/HonoHono.pdf>



What a beautiful display they will make!





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:

[Paphiopedilum Culture Sheet](#)



Next GIOS Meeting: February 14

Plan on attending our next GIOS meeting on February 14. Mark Edlund will be our featured speaker sharing tips about preparing orchids for display at the April Spring Show. Turning his attention to orchids on the Display Table, he will offer comments and advice for their care. Be sure to bring a plant for the Display Table!



We will also have a re-potting session. Bring along one or several of your orchids in need of re-potting, as well as pots and tools. The club will provide new medium to re-pot with, and have supplies and fertilizer available for purchase. Take advantage of others' expertise and assistance to get your orchids in great shape for the Spring.

GIOS T-Shirts & Cookbook For Sale



The GIOS Cookbook is available for only \$10. This cookbook is filled with favorite recipes from many of our members along with photos of beautiful orchids.

GIOS T-Shirts are also available for \$15 each. Wear yours proudly when volunteering at our Shows or attending other Shows.

