



KAIMUKI ORCHID SOCIETY

JULY 2019



Our greatest happiness does not depend on the condition of life in which chance has placed us, but is always the result of good conscience, good health, occupation, and freedom in all just pursuits.
Thomas Jefferson



Kaimuki Orchid Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 10203
Honolulu, HI 96816
KaimukiOrchidSociety.org

JUNE MEETING (Tuesday, May 7, 2019) - Mr. Scot Mitamura, chief horticulturist at the Foster Botanical Gardens and a master orchid grower provided a comprehensive overview for successful orchid culture. While the details were specified in a comprehensive handout the underlying theme was consistency and attention to the basics by insuring proper light, water, and air. Feed your plants on a regular basis, be on the alert for insects, diseases, and other maladies, treat accordingly. Keep your growing area clean, remove all dead leaves and flowers so pests do not have areas to hide. An accompanying slide presentation providing examples of items discussed in conjunction with the handout, essentially addressed everything that one would need to know about orchid culture. Of course the challenge is execution but the encouragement was to try different things like setting up plants to take advantage of the ambient light that varies with the seasons. Stay with the basics but try to identify the things that work best. The challenges are substantial but the encouragement is most valuable. The Board on behalf of members of KOS is grateful for the time and attention provided to us by Mr. Mitamura. We hope to impose on him in the future so that he can check on how we are doing.

JULY MEETING (Tuesday, July 2, 2019) - A hands on phalaenopsis potting session is planned. Members were asked to sign up for this exercise so as to insure that there will be sufficient supplies for the activity. Media, pots, other accessories, as well as advice will be provided. A demonstration is also on the menu. Members need to bring their own phal. If you have not already signed up please advise any of the officers prior to the meeting of your intention to participate. We are hoping that the activity will be both informative and fun filled. Additionally members are encouraged to continue participation in the Culture Award activity which has developed into a highly anticipated display of your very fine and magnificent entries.

MEMBERSHIP - Welcome to new member Ms. Shelly Miyahara. Shelly found us on the internet in seeking assistance in how to care for a variety of orchid plants that came into her possession. Please welcome Ms. Miyahara to KOS and encourage her to query any of us regarding information that may help in developing good orchid culture practices. Also, Shelly, please feel free to participate in any and all activities of the Society. Again, welcome to KOS.

BARK ORDERS— After a series of attempts to secure order and delivery of bark for members from one supplier, it was necessary to terminate that effort. An alternative supplier has been recommended by one of the orchid experts and pursuit of that source is underway. As you may recall the initial plan was to get the New Zealand Orchinata bark in various sizes. Availability of that product was the primary factor in seeking an alternative. The product from the alternative supplier is similar to the Orchinata brand, is also from New Zealand, comes in comparable sizes, is slightly more expensive, but comes in a larger bag (which results in a lower per unit cost). Members will be advised as to cost, delivery, pick up, and payment details as soon as available. Apologies are necessary for the delays encountered to members who placed their orders and are eager to use this product which is substantially more durable than the common fir bark.

SATURDAY HANDS ON SESSION - An eager group of folks showed up at the Saturday June 15, session and engaged in a series of repotting exercises that left everyone with some basic information and first hand experience on this sometimes mundane task needed to perpetuate continued growth. Thanks to a number of donations, including several large plants from Lois Okino, participants not only did the repotting but got to take home their handiwork. The primary intent is to focus on the basics and get hands on experience. The next session is scheduled for Saturday, July 20, 2109 at the residence of Alan Maii, 5228 Apo Drive, Aina Haina. Apo Drive intersects West Hind Drive four streets up from the stop light on Kalaniana'ole Hwy. at shopping center. Please advise if planning to attend: a) email: asm808321@gmail.com, b) text or phone: (808) 351-7535 (if calling please leave a message).

- KOS OFFICERS**
- Pres: Michele Watanabe
m.watanabequilts@gmail.com
 - 1st VP - Linda Leong
 - 2nd VP - Vacant
 - Rcrd Sec: Alice Murai
nanamurai@gmail.com
 - Corres. Sec: Paula Fukuda
hiavon-1@live.com
 - Treasurer: Jan Nogawa
373-1823
 - Director: Beaudine Ma
Treasurehorsebma@yahoo.com
 - Director: Alan Maii
asm808321@gmail.com
377-5005
 - Director: Ingrid Meyer
ingybee@gmail.com
 - Director: Alice Kim
348-5376
 - Director: Evie Yamakawa
eyy808@gmail.com
 - Refreshments: Ernie & Jan Nogawa 373-1823



Phragmipedium Jason Fischer
Owner: Kate Leonard



Hard at it!

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JULY ORCHID TIPScot Mitamura

Summer is a good time to repot. Pay attention to your bark. The common fir bark today is softer and can often get infected with snow mold. Whitish in color, this mold, as it is a fungus, is capable of smothering orchid roots. Solution, pot more frequently, use fresh New Zealand bark, store open bags of bark in a covered dry area. Stable orchid media is one of the keys to successful orchid culture.

CULTURE AWARD - JUNE 2019 MEETING

Plant commentary provided by AOS judges. Congratulations to all awardees.



1-5 Yrs. - Ren. Red Dragon
Owner: Ingrid Meyer

6-10 Yrs. - Paph. Robianum (Paph. Parishii "VQ" x Paph. Lowii "#3")
Owner: Alan Mail

11+Yrs. - Laelia Purpurata
'Schustriana' Owner: Linda Leong

KOS - D. rhodoterygium
'semi-alba' Owner: Alan Mail

From left: Ascocentrum Ming (Owner Linda Leong); Den. Palolo Sunshine (Owner Ingrid Meyer); Blc. Dupreana 'coerulea' sub var. 'Kodama' (Owner Linda Leong). Far right: Mr. Roy Andrade providing Culture Award commentary.

CULTURE AWARD ACTIVITY - Once again an outstanding display of plants cultivated by members. The quality and vibrancy of these plants are truly a testament to the care and attention being provided by the owners. Congratulations to all participants for sharing your work and contributing to the excitement of this regular activity. Our AOS judges continue to provide excellent commentary on all entries. It is always fascinating to learn of the background associated with many of the plants. Your continued support of this activity is greatly appreciated.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS - Thanks to all who contributed refreshments for the meeting. Included are Paula Fukuda, Grace Tobita, Beaudine Ma, Guy Watanabe, Kate Leonard, Ian Sandison, Ruth Chun, Sharilyn Nitta, Arlene Uyeno, Linda Leong, Steph Miwa, and Lynn Mirikidani. Mahalo for sale table patronage and to all who contribute to the variety of items that are made available. The small group of crafters that have been gathering at Michele's have provided a variety of crafts. Plants, fruits from the back yard, and freshly baked banana bread are among the items that may be found at the table. So take a look as there is always something that may catch your eye. All proceeds are used to help offset society costs for room rent, insurance, speakers' fees, and other expenses. The volunteer set up / take down crew has been exceptional. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS: a) July 2019 General Meeting; Tues, July 2, 2019, 6:00 p.m., b) July Hands On Session, Saturday, July 20, 2019 10:00 a.m. (see pg. 1), c) August 2019 General Meeting; Tues, August 6, 2019, 6:00 p.m., d) July Board meeting, TBD.

Come and join us, 1st Tuesday every month, 6:00 p.m., Kilauea Recreational Center, Kilauea Regional Park, Kaimuki.