



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

August 2024

<http://www.kuniaorchidsociety.org/> or www.facebook.com/KuniaOrchidSociety

Edited by Denise Stewart

A Message from Our President

Aloha Kunia Orchid Society Members & Friends,

As we learn more about growing orchids, we become more familiar with the important factors of growing them; light, growing medium, humidity, watering, fertilizing, and repotting. I hope you have benefitted from the speakers that we have invited in the past months to help you learn about the repotting process. We invite speakers who are willing to share their successful techniques with us.

At our June meeting, we were fortunate to have Doug DeMoss, a long-time orchid grower, share with us some of his repotting techniques. He likes to thoroughly water the plants he intends to repot. This makes it easier to remove the plant from the original pot. We were able to witness how he repotted several Cattleya orchid plants. We could see why the plants needed to be repotted because the plants were growing out of the pots. His choice of orchid bark is Orchata, which can be purchased in our own backyard of Kunia. Learning from books is good, seeing how an actual repotting is done is a great experience.

To encourage our members to carry on the tradition of having Honohono orchids on display and for sale at our annual Kunia Orchid Show, a Honohono Keiki potting activity was the theme of our July meeting. The supplies we needed that night; the Honohono keikis, the bark, the styrofoam peanuts, fertilizer and wire hangers were donated. The plastic pots that we used that night were from our society's inventory. It was a hands-on activity that everyone got to participate in. We all cut our own wire hangers to the desired lengths, made the required holes in the plastic pots, attached the wire hanger to the pot, put some peanuts in the bottom of the pot, followed by potting our personally selected Honohono keiki in the pot. The results at the end of the night varied, but everyone got to take home a potted Honohono plant, with a wire hanger. Hopefully, we will see these plants grow, flower, and take a prominent place in our future shows.

Another hands-on activity is planned for our next general meeting on August 6, at 7:00 pm. It has not been determined yet, but we may be potting either a Dendrobium, Cattleya or other genera. You won't want to miss another educational and fun evening at the Kunia Orchid Society.

Thank you to all those that have contributed their time and efforts in helping with the success of our meetings and activities. We appreciate all those who have brought refreshments for us to enjoy. If you have paid your membership dues, I hope you will take advantage of our educational programs and activities that are available to you each month. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Ken Ching

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Another Exciting Activity At our August Meeting

We are fortunate to have two of our KOS members do a different potting activity for our August meeting, they are Calvin Kumano & Mel Waki. They both are long time orchid growers respected for their excellent growing techniques and producers of many award-winning blooms. Please come and join us for another excellent educational event.



Calvin Kumano awarded Best Phalenopsis by Councilman Matt Weyer at KOS Show



Mel Waki awarded Best Cattleya at KOS Show. Joined by Councilman Matt Weyer and KOS President, Ken Ching.

Their presentation will build on the presentations from the past two meetings – Doug DeMoss's demonstration on transplanting Cattleyas and last month's workshop on planting Honohono keikis. The focus this month will be on planting with New Zealand Sphagnum Moss and orchid bark mix. Our members will be using both medias to plant orchids the correct way after demonstrations and instructions. Those attending should bring a soda flat box or other container to keep tables clean while planting. Some may want to bring disposable gloves to keep their hands clean.

The hands-on activity for the evening will be planting seedlings from compots (Community pots are how we plant seedlings being removed from a flask for the first time) and more mature plants that are ready for planting into 3- or 4-inch pots. They may be a mixture of Dendrobiums, Cattleyas or other genera. We look forward to another fun activity at our next KOS meeting. I hope you will take advantage of this interesting, learning experience.

Thank you, Calvin & Mel.

See you all there!

KOS General Membership Meeting

August 6, 2024, 7:00PM

Mililani Ike Elementary School Cafeteria

GUEST SPEAKERS: CALVIN KUMANO & MEL WAKI

Planting a Honohono Orchid

July KOS General Meeting

At our last meeting, we all learned how to plant a Honohono orchid keiki in a hanging pot. The items needed for our activity were carefully prepared in a zip-lock kit by Suzanne Yamada, who also donated the orchid bark.



The kit included orchid bark mixed with perlite, styrofoam peanuts for aeration, nutricote slow-release fertilizer, dolomite, a 4" plastic pot and a three-prong wire hanger. The Honohono orchid keikis were donated for the event by one of our members, Ed Miyashita. Thank you very much Ed.



Bernard Cabilao, one of our members with a lot of experience growing Honohono orchids, instructed our members through the whole process. Together we punched holes at the right places in the pot, attached the wire, placed the peanuts, bark and Honohono keiki in the pot. So not to make a mess in our meeting facility, members were asked to apply the nutricote and dolomite when they went home.

We didn't go home as experts in Honohono growing but we felt more confident that we at least took the first step. We now have added a Honohono orchid to our collection. Hopefully we will all experience the sweet fragrance of our own Honohono blossoms, someday. Good luck to all!



Kunia Orchid Society Plant Culture Winners!

Master Division



Blc Dupreana coerulea 'Kodama'
Ken and Aileen Ching



Brsdm. Lillian Oka
Henry and Penny Hattal

Novice Division



Phcal. Kryptonite 'Parkside'
Paulette Morimoto



Rlc. Mem. Shirley Byrnes 'NN'
Linda Kurihara