



# *Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter*

## *November 2023*

Visit us at: <http://www.kuniaorchidsociety.org/> or [www.facebook.com/KuniaOrchidSociety](http://www.facebook.com/KuniaOrchidSociety)

*Edited by Denise Stewart*

### **A Message from Our President**

Aloha Kunia Orchid Society Members & Friends,

It has been a very busy month of activities and learning opportunities for the Kunia Orchid Society. First, I would like to welcome the new members that have joined us. We appreciate the support of our current 90 registered members, but we sorely miss seeing many of our veteran members at our meetings. Our registered membership and attendance are down considerably from the pre-Covid times but we continue to offer a lot to all orchid enthusiasts. We invite everyone to come out to learn more about growing beautiful orchids and assisting our new members. If your health allows, we would love to see you at our next meeting on November 7th.

We were fortunate to have Scot Mitamura as our speaker in September to provide helpful instructions on preparing our blooming orchids for a show. We learned that we may be lucky sometime, but it is difficult to groom our orchid plants overnight for a show. It may take weeks and months of routine orchid care to produce an orchid show plant that we can be proud of. Doug Demoss was our speaker in October. Many of us were introduced for the first to an unusual looking and colorful orchid, Paphiopedilum. These orchids are not big plants, our Hawaii climate seems ideal, are low-light orchids, making them an easy orchid to cultivate at home. For the month of November, our guest speaker is Roy Andrade whose topic will be "Dendrobium culture made easy." He will be bringing 6 orchid plants for our Plant Culture winners and orchid plants that we can purchase from him. Come early to get the best choices!

Some very good results from the recent Honolulu Orchid Society Show by our KOS Show Design Committee and members who shared their blooming orchids in our display. Thanks to Julianne Puzon and her committee, we were able to garner second place in the floor display category and we had six individual award winners. Thank you to all those that worked to plan, contribute blooming orchids for our display, help set up and take down our display. If you haven't been a part of a show event, be sure to join us for the next orchid show. You get to meet other orchid growers from all over Oahu.

Henry & Penny Hattal donated quite a few Grammatophyllum orchid plants to us several months ago. We want you to practice growing them so at our next meeting, everyone will have a Gram to take home to raise and bloom. There will be a prize to the first member that can bloom it. How best to grow them? We are going to let you research it and see what happens?

See you at our next general membership meeting!

Aloha,  
*Ken Ching*

**Upcoming  
General Membership Meeting  
7:00 pm, November 7, 2023  
Mililani Ike Elementary  
Cafeteria**

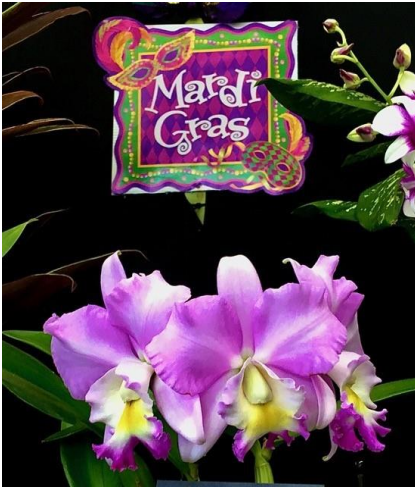
### **DENDROBIUM CULTURE MADE EASY**



**Roy Andrade**

Roy Andrade is an accredited American Orchid Society & Honolulu Orchid Society judge and has travelled to the mainland and Japan for judging.

Roy started growing orchids in 1991 in Waipio with a few orchids then moved to Makakilo in 2000, that's when he really got heavy in to growing. Roy got hooked growing orchids from his mother in-law. His collection started out with 20 plus Dendrobium's then grew to over 100 orchids ranging from Den's, Cat's, Vanda and so on. Roy's collection as of 2008 has now grown to over 1000 orchids. He enjoys teaching others about orchid culture.



## KOS Brings Mardi Gras Theme to HOS Show

Mardi Gras is a joyous celebration before the penance of the Christian Lenten Season begins.

Parades with marching bands and colorful floats abound in cities like New Orleans, which has a heavy French influence. Costumed and masked revelers dance in the streets. And food plays an important role in the festivities.

The KOS Display Design Committee members are Larry Yamamoto, Noelle Sutherland, Cynthia Fuentes, Suzanne Yamada, and Leland Nakai, with Board liaison Julianne Puzon as the coordinator for the committee. They chose Mardi Gras as the theme for our display at the Honolulu Orchid Society show, whose overall theme was “Festival of Orchids.”

The committee members and volunteers took a collaborative approach and worked hard to create a beautiful display that was awarded Second Place and earned \$100.00 for KOS. Kate Leonard, an orchid judge, said “there were lots of comments from visitors how much they enjoyed your display with its Mardi Gras theme and the street signs which are so characteristic of New Orleans.”

The orchids were nicely spaced and more visible and accessible to the judges, an important consideration in setting up a display. Larry Yamamoto and Ken and Aileen Ching hit home runs with their five Best awards, as did Carol Kawamoto with her Best of Other Genera. The Chings captured Best Yellow Vanda, Best Yellow Dendrobium, and Best Bulbophyllum.



*Best Yellow Vanda – V. Memorial Thianchai ‘Yellow Bird’*



*Best Multi-Floral Slipper Orchid – Phrag. Calurum ‘Pink Wings’*

Larry Yamamoto won Best Lavender Vanda and Best Multi-Floral Slipper Orchid. Kate Leonard added that “once again Larry brought in the most beautiful Phragmipedium.”

The committee gave careful and unhurried consideration to the placement of orchids, experimenting with different layouts to achieve a harmonious and balanced effect. Black iron fencing was hung with small railing planters bedecked with orchids, like the fancy wrought iron balconies overflowing with flowers and plants in the historic French Quarter of New Orleans.

A large seven foot dendrobium anchored one end of the display, and a six and half foot vanda filled in the back area. These two stunning orchids were donated by new KOS member Flora Ferreira. Filler plants included Song of India, coleus, crotons, dracaena, ribbon plants, dieffenbachia, ti, monstera leaves, and lots of hinahina so typical of the Louisiana bayous, where it is called Spanish Moss.



*Flora Ferreira with her huge vanda*



*Ferreira's seven foot dendrobium*

“Mardi Gras” means Fat Tuesday in French because rich and fatty foods are traditionally eaten before a period of austerity. So delicious food was an essential part in the set-up of our display too. Suzanne Yamada prepared a tasty spread with homemade banana bread, a big pot of chili, and chilled pineapple wedges which nicely paired with Aileen Ching’s hot dogs, rice, and tossed green salad.

Cynthia and Stan Fuentes did the heavy lifting over three days, organizing and transporting supplies (boxes, poles, curtains, etc.) from the storage locker at Leilehua H.S. to Washington Middle School and back. Noelle Sutherland hauled 150 pounds of river rocks to create a meandering brook effect through the display.

Veteran Aileen Ching contributed her many years of experience and expertise in setting up winning displays, and graphic design professional Virginia Puzon lent her trained eye to creating a visual flow and to using negative spaces to spotlight orchids. Volunteers Ann Geschwandtner, Inez Brunson and Bonnie Mathew wrapped many pots in black cloths. Lifelong members Henry and Penny Hattal, attalwith sister Lolita Talbo, contributed three cattleyas. Ken and Aileen Ching brought two carloads of orchids and fillers plants.

The last step in the design process was the placement of clever accents and props reflecting the Mardi Gras theme. Shiny beads feathered and sequined masks, a jester’s hat, and replicas of street signs like Rue de Bourbon were interspersed among the orchids and plants. All were in the traditional colors of Mardi Gras – purple, green and gold- which blended so well with the colors of the orchids.

Good food, a common sense of purpose, and friendly cooperation fostered a camaraderie among the committee members and volunteers. “Let the good times roll,” as they say at Mardi Gras in New Orleans!



*Pic. 1 - Noelle Sutherland (partially hidden), Suzanne Yamada and Cynthia Fuentes arrange rocks*



*Pic. 2 - Larry Yamamoto, Virginia Puzon, Cynthia Fuentes, Noelle Sutherland, Julianne Puzon, Penny Hattal, Suzanne Yamada, and Aileen Ching at the end of the show*



*Pic. 3 - Virgina Puzon arranges smaller orchids on the pole.*



## THE MILILANI ORCHID CLUB PLANT & CRAFT SALE

The Mililani Orchid Club has scheduled a plant and craft fair on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at the Mililani Mauka Elementary School from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. There will be over 30 vendors with a variety of plants, crafts and Christmas gift ideas.



We have chosen to be a vendor at this event to earn money for our society's treasury and to promote orchid education in the surrounding communities. One of our two tables will have blooming orchid plants for sale and the other table, we hope to have donated back yard plants, baked items, and other "goodies" that we are allowed to sell.



Please contact Ken Ching, cell (808) 228-2800, if you have something to make, bake, plants to donate or offer your time to help man our KOS tables. All of our members can also support us by coming and buying many beautiful blooming orchids and other items from our KOS tables.

MAHALO!

# NEW OFFICERS FOR 2024

Every year we vote into office new officers for president, vicepresident, treasurer, secretary, and additional board of directors.

Nominations are now being accepted. You can nominate one of our members or you can volunteer for an office. The consent of the nominee must be obtained.

The nominees or volunteers will be announced at our November meeting and elections take place at our December meeting.

Current officers are: President– Ken Ching

Vice-president– Karen Yamamoto

Treasurer – (Position is currently vacant)

Secretary – Denise Stewart

Board of Directors: Currently serving are Dale Mahi, Laura Figueira, Paul Mahi, and Joy Ann Long.

Board of Directors (There are 3 board of director positions that need to be filled.

**Nominations are now being received by Karen Yamamoto:Cell (808) 2256743**

## KOS General Membership Meeting,

November 7, 2023, 7:00PM  
Mililani Ike Elementary School

## DENDROBIUM CULTURE MADE EASY

Speaker: Roy Andrade





## Calling all members!

Come out for the KOS Xmas get together on December 5th.

It will be happening at our regular monthly meeting at Mililani Ike Elementary School cafeteria. Bring a potluck dish to share. Join in a gift exchange (optional)(\$5-\$10). We look forward to seeing everyone at our last meeting of the year.

## GRAMMATOPHYLLUM: The Kunia Orchid Society Mystery Plant??



Henry & Penny Hattal generously donated Grammatophyllum plants to us over a year ago.

At our November meeting, we will be passing out one of these plants to each member to take home to raise and bloom. The first person to bring a blooming plant to one of our meetings will win a prize and Henry & Penny will give us the name of this plant.

Good luck to all!

## *KOS General Meeting Speakers*

*September Guest Speaker: Scot Mitamura  
“How To Prepare Your Blooming Plants For The Orchid Show.”*



*Scot, an award-winning orchid grower, shared his knowledge on how to prep plants for a show. It definitely helped us, as KOS won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Honolulu Orchid Society Show last month.*

*October Guest Speaker: Doug DeMoss  
“Some Important Things About Paphiopedilums”*



*Doug was an entertaining presenter who introduced us to an orchid genus that many people have not seen or heard about. They are some of the most colorful and unusual flowers.*

# *Kunia Orchid Society Plant Culture Winners!*

## *Class 1 (11+ years)*



Miranda stenopetela Ken and Aileen Ching



Hab. medusa Larry Yamamoto

## *Class 2 (6 - 10 years)*



Brassidium Hybrid Dale Mahi



Rlc.Momilani Classic Cindy Fuentes

## *Class 3 (0 - 5 years)*



Cattleya Hybrid Max Nonies



Bsn. Maikai Janine Mikasa





The time has come to renew your Kunia Orchid Society membership for 2024. Last year, your membership dues and donations helped fund our KOS monthly meetings, newsletters and other KOS expenses. With the challenges and restrictions brought about by COVID-19, we still plan to provide continued orchid education opportunities for our members at our monthly general meetings and participation in community orchid and plant sales. We appreciate your kokua by completing the membership renewal form found below and sending it back with your check. Please encourage any of our past members to join us once again.

Mahalo,  
Kunia Orchid Society Board of Directors



## Kunia Orchid Society – 2024 Membership Application

- \$15 New and Renewing Membership (Renewal received by Dec 31)
- \$20 New and Renewing Membership (Jan 1, 2024, and beyond)

Tax Deductible Donation, if any:

\$10   \$20   \$50   \$100   Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make Check Payable to: Kunia Orchid Society. Your Cancelled Check will be your receipt. Mail to P.O. Box 893956, Mililani, HI 96789

- o **Check if your address has not changed.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_