



# *Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter*

## *December 2020*

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

*Edited by Marilyn Inouye*

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

Dear Kunia Orchid Society Members and Friends,

Despite the new challenges we encounter, it seems like we have different ones each day. There is much to be grateful for. We are fortunate to have the Kunia Orchid Society with its mission to help us to learn and appreciate the many orchid plants and flowers. We are lucky to meet many new and cherished friends through our society meetings and events.

Thank you to our dear KOS members, Carmela and Stanley Watanabe, for starring as hosts in a virtual tour of their S&W Nursery. It was the first time that many of our members got to know about this special orchid nursery and operation in Waianae. Located on Halona Road, it is kind of hidden from the main road. I think they are best known for their decorated blooming orchid plants in Costco, Sam's Club, Long's Drug Store, etc. I knew they cultivated various types of plants, but when I visited them, my eyes are only on what orchids I can buy. We appreciate our Education Committee for bringing us another wonderful virtual education experience.

I encourage all our members to renew your KOS membership for 2021. The weeks remaining in 2020 are going quickly by. I cannot help but marvel at your generous donations to help maintain our society financially. As of about 2 weeks ago, Sherry Hunt, our treasurer, had received donations of \$1,275 from our members. A big Mahalo to you!

We distributed the bulk of our KOS t-shirts by way of a curbside pickup in Mililani. We appreciate the work of Noelle Sutherland, Karen Yamamoto and volunteers who helped in getting them to our members. A big problem for me is I grew since I ordered my shirt, and I now have a very snug fit. If you were not able to pick up some of the Dendrobium anosmum (4N) x sub plants at the t-shirt distribution, we may still have some for you to raise and love.

We are still in need of a KOS Treasurer to serve us next year – and if you enjoy it, maybe for a little while after. Please contact me if you are willing to learn about the many responsibilities of our treasurer. We could even use the help of more than one member so we can share some of the duties.

We honored our military veterans on November 11. It was on the 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month of 1918 that an armistice between Germany and the Allied nations came into effect. Each November 11, Veterans Day honors all of those who have served our country in war or peace – dead or alive – although it is largely intended to thank the living veterans for their sacrifices. It was originally called Armistice Day, commemorating the end of World War I.

To the veterans in our Kunia Orchid Society and to all those that we know, Mahalo!

Ken Ching  
Mobile (808) 228-2800

**Upcoming  
General Membership Meeting  
via Zoom Video Conference  
7:00 pm December 1, 2020**

**NOTE: Input for January  
Newsletter is due by  
December 20, 2020**

*To Marilyn Inouye*



**Adam Almeida**

A short presentation on species orchids will be shared by Adam Almeida at our December 1 meeting via Zoom. Join us as Adam shares photographs of some of the many species of orchids in his collection, as well as cultural information so that our Kunia members may successfully grow beautiful species orchids too!

Adam is a college student from Kailua getting a degree in Natural Science. He has been surrounded by orchids and anthuriums for most of his life, but started to seriously get interested in orchids after joining the Honolulu Orchid Society in the Spring of 2016. Since then, he has joined nearly all the other societies, including Kunia! He hopes his passion for orchids will lead him to a career where he can continue to learn. Make a list of questions you might have to ask Adam.

# UPDATED ZOOM GUIDELINES

**Having the dedicated Zoom application downloaded on your device is necessary for access on Tablets and Smart Phones and makes access significantly easier on computers.**

## **Accessing Zoom meeting on Computer**

1. If you are on a computer, I highly recommend making an account.
2. Ensure you have logged into Zoom the application.
3. Click the Zoom link in the KOS email.
4. A pop-up may appear, asking if you want to allow this application to make changes to your computer. If this appears press yes.
5. The Zoom meeting should open automatically after this.

## **Accessing Zoom meeting on Tablet and Smart Phone**

1. Open the Zoom application.
2. Press the blue “Join a Meeting” button.
3. Input the 11-digit Meeting ID number into the first line. This can be found in the KOS Zoom meeting invitation.
4. Below this, you will see it says, “Your iPhone/iPad/whatever device you’re using”, this is where we would like you to input your full name. This helps us to keep the meeting safe and secure as well as let the other members know who you are.
5. Once steps 3 and 4 are completed you may press the blue “Join” button and you should enter the meeting.

**If you are still having issues with Zoom and would like personal attention, please leave Adam a message at 808-295-4842 or email him at [adam.almeida@gmail.com](mailto:adam.almeida@gmail.com).**

### **Meeting link for December Zoom Meeting 7:00pm Tuesday, December 1, 2020**

**Click this Link to Join Zoom Meeting: [KOS December 1, 2020 Zoom Meeting](#)**

Meeting ID: 876 2661 2514

Passcode: 053351

## *Kunia Orchid Society Zoom Meeting November 3, 2020*

Whenever we see Brad Lau, lucky numbers are coming up.



Carmela & Stan Watanabe answering questions about the virtual tour of their orchid nursery, S&W Orchids.



The lucky wheel, if you look closely you can see everyone that participated.



Blc. Maikai, 10 lucky number prizes donated by Jocelyn Mokulehua.



### **Lost all my leaves- now what? By Brad Lau**

Can my orchid that dropped all leaves still survive? To determine what is going on, first understand what leaves do. Plants need leaves to provide food and air. Photosynthesis allows conversion of ultraviolet light energy into sugars. Pores in the leaves use stomata to breathe in carbon dioxide and breathe out oxygen. Leaves may release excess water but otherwise may hold moisture if they are thick.

With no leaves none of these functions occur. A leafless plant will need to shift into rest phase and conserve resources until new leaves grow large enough to resume their function. True leafless orchids have roots that are green and can photosynthesize. Vandas also have thick green roots that have chlorophyll.

A deciduous orchid will lose all leaves at the end of growth phase and be left with a bare cane or plump pseudobulb, examples of this are catesetum and lycaste. They grow new shoots each year with strong leaves. The pseudobulb slowly gets plump, then at the end of the season the leaf is lost. The plant goes dormant and may flower early in the next season followed by new growth. So, leaf loss is expected and part of the life cycle.

Semi-deciduous orchids will lose some or all their leaves on canes that are more than a year old. *Dendrobium nobile* follows this pattern with leaf loss on older canes which often flower. As a result, you need to know how an orchid blooms over time. This way you will know not to remove old canes that are bare of leaves.

Most orchids are evergreen supporting constant active growing leaves. An old cane or bulb may drop some or all leaves, however new growth remains green to provide energy for the plant. Most hybrid orchids follow this growth pattern. *Phalaenopsis* and *Vanda* are evergreen, and you should not expect the orchid to be without any leaves. Rot or disease may harm the leaves resulting in their loss. Be sure to treat any disease so that it does not spread more. Without leaves the plant cannot survive and may try to grow a keiki or even new shoot. Any new leaf growth could save the plant. Even without leaves, if the roots are plump and thick you may water them and hope for new growth.

A good rule of thumb is if the cane or pseudobulb is soft and dried up it can be removed or trimmed off. If it is hard and plump you can leave it. Sometimes on an old bare Dendrobium cane you may see a keiki sprout. By observing the orchid for 2 or more years, you can see multiple blooming and growing cycles and appreciate how it grows.

Finally, Habenaria is a genus that grows and flowers then dies back at the end of the growing season. Though it looks dead, the corm swells and stores nutrients but is buried in the media and lies dormant until the next spring. The reason is it naturally grows in a climate with monsoons followed by drought. During this rest period it has minimal requirements for moisture so set it aside and be sure it has a tag so you do not toss it out. In the spring wait for new growth or try a little misting of water to help it come alive and start to grow.

Having no leaves can spell disaster for evergreen orchids but they can sometimes still be saved with patience and a bit of luck. This means it is vitally important to keep leaves healthy and think to buy orchids with strong leaf growth. Know your orchids and which ones drop leaves as a normal part of their dormancy. Cut back on watering and fertilizing until new growth begins. Appreciate the diverse approaches orchids must grow and have fun raising them.

### **Membership Renewal & Voluntary Donations**

Please continue your support as a member of KOS by renewing your membership. We ask that you complete a separate application form for each person.

We are adding a new item to our membership renewal form this year – an area where members can indicate a voluntary donation amount. Although optional, we welcome any voluntary donations. Donations are tax deductible since Kunia Orchid Society is a non-profit organization. To save on postage expense, your cancelled check will be your receipt.



**PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

### **Kunia Orchid Society – 2021 Membership Application**

- \$15 Regular Membership Renewal (Jan 1 to Dec 31); \$20 if paid after Jan 1<sup>st</sup>
- \$20 New Membership (Jan 1 to Dec 31)

**Tax Deductible Donation, if any:**

\$10    \$20    \$50    \$100   Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete and mail to:**

**Please make Check Payable to: Kunia Orchid Society**  
**Mail to P.O. Box 893956, Mililani, HI 96789**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed  
**Your Cancelled Check will be your receipt**

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

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

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

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