



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

July 2021

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Edited by Denise Stewart

A Message from Our President

Aloha Kunia Orchid Society Members & Friends,

It has been over a year since the COVID-19 situation hit us and we stopped having our in-person meetings. Thanks to our Education Committee, we have been able to keep in touch with most of you by virtual monthly general meetings. For those who have been able to login to our virtual meetings, you have been able to benefit from some great presenters on various orchid subjects. All of our members have benefitted from Brad Lau's excellent orchid articles that he has been sharing in our monthly newsletter. Those educational articles really apply to our members and our Oahu conditions.

If you have not received your KOS T-shirt that you ordered before our last planned orchid show, they are sitting in my living room. Please contact me so I can arrange to get them to you. Some of our members have asked about buying any extra T-shirt for \$10. If I don't hear from you by July 19, I will make them available for sale and store the balance in our storage container at LHS.

About a year ago, I offered a free popcorn orchid plant to anyone that wanted one. For those that did not get one and would like to get one, I have a limited supply on a first come first serve bases. Everyone has to have a popcorn orchid in their yard! The name of this popcorn orchid is *Oncidium sphacelatum* 'Sunbeam' AM/AOS.

In accordance with our KOS By-Laws, our Nominating Committee will be seeking nominations for our new Officers and outgoing Board of Directors. We didn't have elections last year due to COVID-19 so officers agreed to remain with their responsibilities for the current year. The report by the nominating committee is made in September and shall conduct the voting by means of a secret ballot at the November general membership meeting. I will announce our Nominating Committee members to you next month so you can submit your nominations to them. Please think about nominating a deserving candidate or volunteering yourself if you are willing to help our Kunia Orchid Society. Our society is led and functions with the help of volunteer members.

If you or someone that you know has not been getting our monthly newsletter, either by email or regular mail, please notify our Secretary, Denise Stewart, at Denityler@sbcglobal.net or her cell (818) 679-2369. I look forward to meeting with you in person again and participating in the various orchid shows.

Take care and be well.
Ken Ching

**Upcoming
General Membership Meeting
via Zoom Video Conference
July 6, 2021 at 7:00 pm**

**NOTE: Input for August
Newsletter is due by
July 20, 2021**

**Send to
denityler@sbcglobal.net**



July Speaker: Linden Burzell

Lin Burzell has been growing orchids for about sixty years. He began collecting as a young man in Vista, California.

During his thirty years in Hawaii, Lin was active in orchids, and was a member of the Windward Orchid Society, the Honolulu Orchid Society and served on the boards of La Hui Okika Species Club and as President of the Lyon Arboretum Association.

After re-locating to southern California in 1996, Lin returned to orchid growing with a vengeance. He now maintains a growing collection of *Cattleya* species cultivars, which he enjoys breeding, growing, exhibiting and photographing. We are very fortunate to have Lin present his Unifoliate *Cattleya* presentation for us on July 6, 2021.

Making Sense of Orchid Plant Tags

By Brad Lau

You've heard that plant tags are important but unless you are careful they are easy to lose track of. Worse, your grandkids can come to visit and pull out all the colorful tags from each plant and present them to you with a smile. Yikes!

Some of us know our plants well and don't need tags. However, over time tags may get lost or fall out of pots and be swept up in the trash. The ink on the tag may not endure time or UV light and become faded or the tags can break apart.



To read a tag you need to know a few things. The first name is the genus like Vanda or Dendrobium with an abbreviation like V. or Den. The second name is the species or hybrid name which is capitalized if it is a hybrid or lower case (for species) if it is found naturally growing.

Hybrid orchids can be made from parents of multiple genres either species or hybrids. Species orchids can be self-crossed and remain a species orchid. This is done to select desirable traits and is called line breeding. Plants can be treated with a chemical colchicine to increase the number of chromosomes of the plant such as 4N resulting in a slower growing but more robust plant. 2N is a normal amount of chromosomes. Tags are sometimes marked with 4N.

Hybrid orchid names are usually officially registered with the Royal Horticultural Society so that the parentage is unique and documented. This helps other hybridizers with planning what to cross or to recreate a past hybrid.

The most common orchids you buy from sources today will be hybrids. They are popular varieties, often cloned and grown in large quantities. Sometimes they are sold with no tags. Species orchids require some searching, ask your vendor for help with any tips on growing requirements.

When an orchid is given a merit award the owner may register the plant with a varietal name if there was none previously and any keiki, cuttings or clones will have the varietal name and award. The award will have some letters like AM/HOS for Award of Merit/Honolulu Orchid Society and appear last on the tag.

On tags the numbers before the names are inventory or catalog ID numbers and can help recover the name if part of the tag is damaged or lost and the vendor is known.

I've included a picture of some tags that will help to illustrate information on each:

* T-4848 Lc. Mem. Robert Strait 'Islanders Delight'

Lc. is for Laeliocattleya, Mem. Robert Strait is the hybrid name and 'Islanders Delight' is the varietal name.

* HRS 21509 Den. Roy Tokunaga 'Freckles' x Den. Roy Tokunaga 'Super Spots'

This hybrid orchid is a cross between two Den. Roy Tokunaga of different varieties.

* 23146 Den. Little Atro x normanbyense

This hybrid is a cross between Den. Little Atro and a species Den. normanbyense.

* 21241 Dyakia hendersoniana Indonesian specie

* H&R Nurseries, Inc. (shows reverse side of last two tags with vendor info)

Orchid genus names may change due to reclassification for taxonomic reasons which result in changes to how we ID a plant. Currently many Cattleya alliance plants are called Cattleya and abbreviated with a C. In the past, some examples of related genera are Laelia or Laeliocattleya (L. or Lc.) now all Cattleya.

Try to write with a lead pencil on tag rather than with a pen or marker due to fading of the ink. Even pencil can fade over time. If the tag is deep into the media it may help to resist fading. A grease pen can mark a plastic pot and resist rubbing off.

To keep the tag from getting lost you can punch a hole and tie it with wire to the pot or hanger. You can thread the tag into a plastic web pot or wood basket. It's a good idea to read and review each tag when you repot and write the date. As tags age they may break easily so be careful.

You can reuse tags or cut them lengthwise thinly. If you used pencil you can erase the name and keep recycling. Various colored tags can indicate plants of importance or even flower colors.

Tags are important, but all is not lost if you do lose one. Take a picture of the old tag, the plant or it's flower and send it to me. We can narrow down the ID which may assist with how to care for the plant. Many home growers like to accept no ID rescue or hand me down plants and want to get them to bloom.

Finally, having no tag doesn't mean you can't bring a well grown blooming orchid to our orchid meetings or shows. It would still be eligible for a class award in a display or be appreciated for how well it is blooming or cared for.





Kunia Orchid Society Member's Corner

Calvin Kumano



Show vendor & sponsor
President of Aiea & Manoa
Societies

Hybridizer: - Dendrobium
- Phaleanopsis
- Cattleya

Dendrobium Forty Niner 'Susan'

CCM HOS 85 points
AM HOS 81.6 points
2011 Kunia Show

271 flowers on 12 inflorescence
30 canes in a 6 inch pot
Plant was 76 cm tall
Almost 30 inches
Flower width 7.2 cm
Flower length 6.5 cm



KUNIA MEMBERS SHARE



C. Intermedia v. coerulea x Sea Breeze



Epc. Plicaboa x *C. Bowringiana*

Bill & Hilda Takamatsu



Phal. Trovato

Karen Yamamoto



Vanda Tri Color Swavish



Coconut Orchid Maxillaria tenuifolia



Den. Hawaiian Punch

KUNIA MEMBERS SHARE

DaleMahi



Oncidium Intergeneric Hybrid



Paphiopedilum Insigne. 4



Den. Bracteosum. 2

Aileen & Ken Ching



Den. amabile



C. Maxima var. coerulea

Cym. Via Real



Den. chysotoxum

JOIN US IN SHARING PICTURES OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL BLOOMS WITH YOUR KOS FAMILY. IT'S EASY. USE YOUR CELL PHONE OR A CAMERA TO CAPTURE PICTURES OF YOUR FLOWERS. SEND THEM ANYTIME TO DENISE STEWART AT DENITYLER@SBCGLOBAL.NET WITH YOUR NAME AND PLANT DESCRIPTION. YOU CAN ALSO BE ANONYMOUS IF YOU LIKE.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP AND SUPPORT OF THE KUNIA ORCHID SOCIETY!

KOS May General Meeting Tuesday, July 6, 2021 7:00pm

Click link to join meeting: [July General Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 818 4183 7498
Passcode: 800939

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.