



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

March 2020

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

Edited by Marilyn Inouye

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

With the cancellation of our Kunia Orchid Show and the cancellation of all meetings and events scheduled at schools due to COVID-19, what situation do we find ourselves in as a result? With a great deal of uncertainty, the most logical choice currently is we just must wait and see how this pandemic plays out.

Regarding the general stability of our Kunia Orchid Society, some modifications of our meetings and events may be necessary. I think overall, we should be fine. We depend on a school for our meetings and events as most other Oahu orchid societies do. This year's Appreciation Luncheon that was scheduled for April is cancelled. Our general meetings for May and June are now very unlikely. The next meeting is 'TBA' (To Be Announced).

A big 'Thank You' to all our members and supporters who helped with the planning and preparation of the 66th Annual Kunia Orchid Show, especially our Show Co-Chairpersons: Bob Speer, Karen Yamamoto and Flora Nash. We did almost everything, except to have the show. Putting on an orchid show later this year would be a very daunting task, but is there a smaller fundraiser that we could possibly do?

I personally will have a little more time to resurrect my sad looking orchid plants. With a lot of neglect, too much rain, and too little sun, they now require plenty of work. Fertilizing, spraying for fungus and critters, trimming, and repotting are all very necessary for me currently. If you need some orchid plants and weeds to practice on, give me a call.

Remember to heed the safety and readiness guidelines for COVID-19. Take good care of yourself, your family, and stay well.

Ken
Mobile (808) 228-2800

OFFICERS & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT: Ken Ching
VICE PRES.: Karen Yamamoto
SECRETARY: Marilyn Inouye
TREASURER: Sherry Hunt
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Paul Mahi
EX-OFFICIO: Bob Speer

DIRECTORS

Dennis Bunda
Laura Figueira
Dawn Furumoto
Dale Mahi
Jun Panee
Linda Snowden-Peninger
Amy Teves

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**NEWSLETTER INPUTS ARE DUE
BY THE 20th OF EVERY MONTH
to Marilyn Inouye**

March Refreshments – Mahalo!

Thank you to the following members who donated the delicious refreshments for all of us to enjoy at our March meeting: Catherine Kikuchi – Brownie bites, Angie Leu – chicken katsu and noodles, Lois Shishido – special rice dish, Ingrid Greene – brownies, Cindy Fuentes – fruit dish, Lori Black – pork rinds, Kuka Broussard – chocolate cake and BBQ chicken, Dale and Paul Mahi – meatballs, Claire Ching – pickled cucumbers and asparagus, Inez Brunson – raspberry clafouti and raspberry crisp, Dennis Bunda – shrimp cocktail, Noelle Sutherland – sweet and juicy sliced navel oranges. This information was gathered from our completed signup sheet from that night.

NOTE: Refreshment assignments are postponed until our next meeting date has been determined.

HONORING KOS MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2019

Since we were not able to have our Annual Orchid Show this year, where we normally have a memorial for our former members, we would like to take this opportunity to honor them in this newsletter.

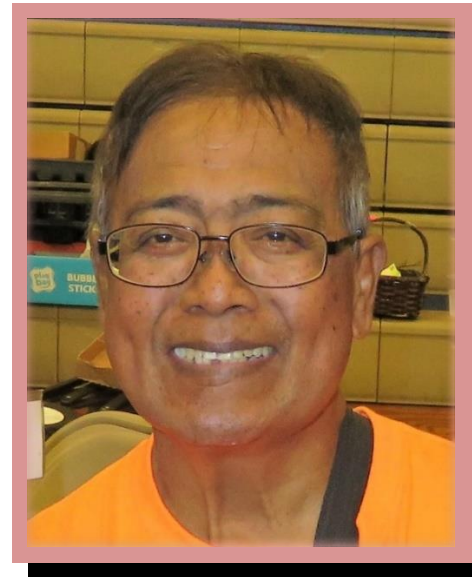


Virginia Banis Cabilao 12/13/46 - 9/29/19

Virgie Cabilao was raised in a very large family in Waialua. She graduated from Wailaua High School, then received her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Business Administration from Brigham Young University. She married Bernard Cabilao and settled in Mililani, where they had three sons.

Virgie worked as a contract specialist at Tripler Army Hospital for over thirty years. She was a multi-talented lady who involved herself with many community organizations, including selling real estate, selling mortuary plans, and was a travel agent for Vacations Hawaii. In her retirement years, she joined the Kunia Orchid Society and assisted Bernard with selling Honohono orchids at the Kunia Orchid Society Show in March and Mother's Day sales for the Mililani Orchid Club in May. She learned Hula and gradually shared her dances at orchid society functions.

Virgie served on the Kunia Orchid Society Executive Board as Treasurer for 3 years, at a time when the Society transitioned to a non-profit organization. Virgie's hard work and skilled service to the Society will be missed. Her cheerful smile, positive attitude, and genuine love for orchids will be fondly remembered.



Dennis Labra 1949 - 2019

Dennis Labra was born and raised in Kahuku and graduated from Kahuku High School. He enlisted in the Navy in 1967-1969, then worked at the Public Works Center, where he later retired from in 2002.

Dennis was a loving family man. His wife Tessie loved raising orchids and plants in general. Dennis helped care for all her plants. Soon, Dennis came to LOVE orchids as well.

Dennis belonged to the Ewa, Mililani, and Kunia Orchid Societies, as well as the Pearl City Bonsai and Bromeliad Clubs. He enjoyed helping Tessie set up and sell plants at orchid shows and attended the Kunia Orchid Society's general meetings every month. Even after he became ill, he still looked forward to attending the general meetings and attended as often as he could. Dennis enjoyed the Society's annual banquets and Christmas parties, and one of his fond memories was singing.

Dennis had an easy, bright, and handsome smile. His strong, but quiet presence, will be missed by all his fellow society members.

MARCH COMMENTARY WINNERS

Novice Division



Den. Roy Tokunaga by Dale Mahi



Paph. Primulinum by Adam Almeida



Phal. hybrid by Jocelyn Mokulehua

Masters Division



V. Mimi Palmer hybrid by Larry Yamamoto



Dinema Polybulbon by Ken and Aileen Ching



Max. Sanguinea by Brade Lau

Sharing Our Orchids Through Photos

Recently, Mel Waki sent out a post to the Honolulu Orchid Society members: "Fortunately, even with all the cancellations, postponements, closures, suspensions, distancing, and lock-ins, our orchids continue to bloom." He then proceeded to invite members to send photos of their blooming orchids to share with their fellow members. It was so impressive to see photos of many wonderful flowers that were sent in! Mel Waki was immediately contacted, and with his blessing, we'd like to start something like this at KOS.

Start using your cell phone to take pictures of your current blooming orchids and email them to Marilyn Inouye, our KOS Secretary and newsletter editor. Marilyn's email is mminouye4445@hotmail.com. At her discretion, she will select pictures sent to her by the normal deadline, which is the 20th of each month, in order to include them as part of the next newsletter. Important information that Marilyn will need: owner's name, plant name, and where grown. Although she will try to include as many as she can, please don't be discouraged if she cannot fit everybody's orchid pictures in every month's newsletter.

Orchid Shows Cancelled – So What Now? by Brad Lau

Although the World Health Organization has declared the novel coronavirus outbreak to be a global pandemic, our State and Nation can meet and accept this challenge with some careful planning and proactive action.

The organizers of several local orchid shows planned for late March decided to cancel shows out of concern for the safety of club members, their families, students and teachers at schools, and for the general public as both shows draw large numbers of attendees. A three-day orchid show is a significant amount of time to spend in a large gathering for volunteers. Each of us need to decide if it may be better to restrict exposure to larger events in order to reduce risk for ourselves and our families. There is also uncertainty with our public-school sites, which are used for various meetings and shows. Department of Education policy is, if schools are closed (due to health reasons), then all facilities are closed and no meetings can take place.

Fortunately, through all of this, we have our orchids, which are entering the Spring Season. It's been rainy, which sometimes changes when the blooms may arrive. Cover those plants that might get crown rot or move them to a drier area. Rain and clouds usually mean sunlight is not as strong. Sun strength varies with seasons and will increase by April and continue through the summer.

If you must move a plant to a sunnier location, now is a good time to make the move. The plant may adjust better and gradually tolerate more sunlight from summer months. If it is already sunny, then even small location changes can provide more light, so be careful.

Since we have some extra time, now is a good time to go through your plant collection and do some cleaning out, weeding, repotting, or rearranging. Check that plant labels are correct and legible. Check plants for new root growth, and if roots are about 1", you can repot in new media. If roots are longer than 1", they risk damage with repotting.

We need to be flexible and supportive; our show vendors are also not able to sell plants that were planned for the show. When possible, please support them at future events.

Please be current with any health advisories the State has announced and practice good hand washing throughout the day, especially in public areas. Refrain from travel and any larger gatherings and keep a safe distance from others.

Thank You Message from Show Chair Bob Speer

What a dynamic period for all of humanity. This virus dilemma is indeed a fast-moving problem. In retrospect, the decision by the Board of Directors to cancel our show was exactly the right one, but painful for sure.

Having said that, I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thanks for the exceptional effort devoted to the preparation for our show. The support was truly amazing in the following key areas:

- Country Store
- Food
- Publicity
- Education
- Vendors
- Display participants
- Members helping with correspondence
- Fiscal support team
- Board of Directors

Thank you all for your efforts – you are a great team and have been a true pleasure to work with!

From our Treasurer Sherry Hunt

If you need reimbursement forms sent to you, please call Sherry Hunt at (808) 222-1123. If you have received a check from KOS, please deposit it as soon as possible. This will allow us to have an accurate accounting of our funds.