



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

November 2021

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Edited by Denise Stewart

A Message from Our President

Dear Kunia Orchid Society Members,

The current pandemic has made it necessary to adjust KOS activities to protect the health and welfare of our members. To that end, our monthly meetings are being held via zoom and attendance has been fairly successful. The annual election of officers and board members, normally conducted by secret ballot at our November general meeting, must also adjust to our new normal. It is therefore necessary to suspend the usual elections protocol in favor of a safe and practical alternative.

The KOS Board, by unanimous consent, agreed to a presentation of a slate of officers and board members for 2022 via our November newsletter. Any member with an interest in serving on the board or as an officer is invited to contact a member of our nomination committee immediately. The nomination committee consists of: Ken Ching (808)228-2800, Robert Speer (808)551-7652 and Laura Figueira (808)255-9695. Given no changes in the proposed slate, the following board members and officers will assume their positions and responsibilities come January 2022.

President – Kenneth Ching
Vice-President – Karen Yamamoto
Treasurer – Robert Speer
Secretary – Denise Stewart
Board of Directors - Laura Figueira, Dawn Furumoto, Dale Mahi, Amy Teves, Paul Mahi (New), Julianne Puzon (New), Sherry Hunt (Previously served as Treasurer)

Thank you for your understanding and continued support during such a challenging time for our organization. There are certainly better days ahead. Thank you to the following Board of Directors that served the past year that are not able to continue: Jun Panee, Linda Snowden-Peninger and Keith Higuchi.

Through our KOS Newsletter, sent to you by email or by regular mail, we want this very important information to reach every KOS member before our November meeting and welcome your input and participation.

Mahalo,

Ken Ching

**Upcoming
General Membership Meeting
via Zoom Video Conference
November 2, 2021, at 7:00 pm**



Calvin Kumano has been growing orchids ever since his in-laws gifted him an orchid plant after he got married. He currently operates his nursery in Waianae, on the property known as Orchid Center, owned by Lea Takafuji. Calvin specializes in Cattleya, Phaleanopsis and Dendrobium orchids. He is very active in the Oahu orchid community; he is the President of the Aiea and Manoa clubs; both of which hosted annual orchid shows before Covid. Calvin wins many awards for his well grown plants. He is a popular vendor at the Kunia show, and is a familiar and favorite speaker at our meetings. This month, Calvin will talk about his honohono culture and the varieties he created. Be sure to join the meeting, stay for the Q & A and of course, the plant drawing!



KUNIA MEMBERS SHARE



Vanda Madam Rattana x Vanda Faye Bennett
Aileen & Ken Ching



Vanda Yano Blue 'Ploenpit'
Aileen & Ken Ching



Left:
Phal. Cornu
cerviRed
"RedStar"

Dale Mahi

Right:
Den.
Lichenastru
m V.
Prenticei



Stanhopea is a favorite by Brad Lau

The orchid genus of Stanhopea is one of my favorites, because it is hardy, isn't fussy, can be grown in warm weather and has large complex showy fragrant flowers. Known as *El Torito* for "little bull", they have distinctive twin fleshy horns projecting from the middle of the lip.

They are pollinated by male euglossine bees that are rumored to be intoxicated by the scent. In Mexico *S. tigrina* is used to perfume corn tortillas while in Ecuador eucalyptus-scented *S. anfracta* treats coughs.

Stanhopea orchids are found from Bolivia and Brazil to Mexico and Trinidad with over 65 species. They have ovoid dark green pseudobulbs with a single broad often pleated, veined large leaf. The flowers hang downward and are best viewed from under the plant so it is important to grow them in a basket with openings large enough for the flower spikes to hang out and be free of the container.



Well-draining media helps to prevent root rot and roots are fine so regular watering is essential. During their growing season use once or twice monthly half strength fertilizer. Plants need to be large enough to store energy before they can flower so it may take a few years and sometimes they grow so well they are reluctant to bloom.

The large leaves will easily gather light so 60% shade is good but they do like bright diffuse light. I hang my plants layered under other hanging baskets with 50% shade cloth above.

Good air flow is essential to let the media and roots dry out. If you don't get flowers try moving the plant to a slightly more sunny area. Another option is to divide a large plant, the stress may encourage flowering as new growth emerges.



Flowers can be tricky to spot under the plants. I look for any early flower spikes poking into the basket openings. If needed, I cut the plastic pot to help the spike emerge fully before the buds get too large. There can be 2 or more flowers per spike.

Flowers are heavily scented during the day and are waxy with good substance which helps them to last about a week. Some are plain in color while others are spotted or striped.

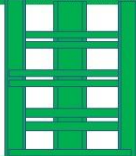
I include a few pictures of *Stanhopea tricornis* with two spikes of yellow flowers. It comes from Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. It grows in wet montane cloud forests from sea level to 3000 feet on the slopes of the Andes.

Baskets that have gaps large enough for flowers to emerge work best. I have used wood or plastic net of various sizes. Don't be afraid of modifying a plastic basket by cutting some of the net away. I will put a few large bark or sphagnum moss sparingly in the basket to hold moisture. My plants get outdoor rain and I water 2-3 times a week, letting water soak the roots. I don't let roots dry out for too long. Each year new shoots will appear and old leaves will fall off after 2-3 years.

I marvel at the sight of each new bloom and appreciate the spicy to jasmine fragrance which can't be missed. I like to keep them in an area I can monitor because the flowers are that special. They can sometimes be ordered from various Maui or Big Island nurseries so keep an eye out for them. I would suggest getting the largest plants offered to get a head start on getting blooms.



Kunia Orchid Society Member's Corner



Carmela and Stan Watanabe



Phal. Orchid World 'S&W' CR HOS

Owners of S&W Nursery
86-524C Halona Road
Waianae HI 96792
(808) 696-3864

Cattleya/Dendrobium/Phaleanopsis/
Vanda/Cactus/Succulents/tillandsia/
Bromeliads/Ornamentals

- Kunia Show Vendor
- Kunia Show Display
- Society Speakers
- Plant Donors

KOS General Meeting 7:00pm

Click [HERE](#) to join meeting

Meeting ID: 828 7292 3295

Passcode: No passcode needed

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.

Join us in sharing pictures of your beautiful blooms with our KOS Family. It's easy!
Use your cell phone or camera to capture photos of your flowers.

Send them anytime to Denise Stewart at denityler@sbcglobal.net with your name and plant name. You can also be anonymous if you like.

We appreciate your membership and support of the KUNIA ORCHID SOCIETY!



The time has come to renew your 2022 Kunia Orchid Society membership. 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 and the general public for the coming year. As soon as permitted, we would like to resume our past fund raising efforts, such as our annual orchid show and other fund raiser opportunities to meet our future association expenses. Until then we appreciate your kokua by completing the membership renewal form found at the end of this newsletter 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 – 2022 Membership Application

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

Tax Deductible Donation, if any:

- \$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

Complete and mail to: _____ \$ _____ 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

Name: _____ Date: _____
 Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____
 Email Address: _____

