



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

October 2023

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Edited by Denise Stewart

A Message from Our President

Aloha Kunia Orchid Society Members & Friends,

Thank you, to all that have been able to attend our monthly general meetings at the Mililani Ike Elementary cafeteria. We have had excellent speakers that fulfill our society's goal of educating our members and the general public about the growing and appreciation of orchids.

This past meeting we had **Scot Mitamura** instruct us on how to prepare our orchids to **display at our** monthly meetings or to the general public at one of the local orchid shows. Cultivating healthy and blooming orchids must take place the year round but special attention is needed as the buds form and the flowers open. Scot's demonstration was a timely one since we need your blooming, show orchids on October 12, for the Honolulu Orchid Show. One very important factor is luck! It is very desirable if your orchids bloom just in time for the show, not too early, or not too late, just in time! Good luck to all!

In order to raise additional funds **to meet our annual budget**, we have accepted an invitation to participate at the **Mililani Orchid Society's Craft and Plant Sales** on November 11, 2023 at the Mililani Mauka Elementary School. We would like to make the public more aware of the Kunia Orchid Society at this event by selling blooming orchids and backyard plants. We will be purchasing blooming orchids from a few wholesalers and invite our members, if they are able to, donate extra plants from your yards or from friends that would like to help. We hope to sell all of our products at a very reasonable price. Please help us by preparing some possible plant donations.

KUNIA ORCHID SHOW is on the horizon again. We have come to an agreement with the Athletic Department of Leilehua High School to once again have the Kunia Orchid Society Show and Plant Sale during the March, Spring break in 2024. We are now in search of a show chairman, or co-chairman and heads of various show committees. If you are willing to help, please contact me until our show leaders have been designated.

Every year in November we have our **Annual Election** for our 2024 new officers and some new board of directors for the Kunia Orchid Society. Nominations and volunteers are now being taken. Please contact our Vice-President, Karen Yamamoto at (808) 225-6743 if you have a nominations or would like to volunteer. In order to nominate someone to an office, the approval of the nominee is required.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next general meeting on October 3, at 7:00 pm.
Ken Ching

Upcoming
General Membership Meeting
7:00 pm, October 3, 2023
Mililani Ike Elementary
Cafeteria

PAPHIOPEDILUM



Our guest speaker this month is Doug DeMoss.

He will introduce you to an orchid genus many people have not seen or heard about. They are some of the most colorful and unusual flowers.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to learn about Paphiopedilum!



The following information would be of great help in preparing for our guest presentation by Doug DeMoss at our next general meeting.

I gathered this information from the internet, along with some of my comments. Ken Ching

Some Important Things About Paphiopedilums

Paff – ee – oh – PED – ih – lum

Paphiopedilums, or Paphs (abbreviation) are often called “slipper orchids” because the fused petals that form the orchid’s pouch or modified lip (labellum) resemble a slipper or shoe. They are easily grown as houseplants and their care is very similar to African Violets. They are southeast Asian orchids which are native to humid forests, mostly terrestrial (grow on the ground) while the majority of orchids are epiphytes (grow in trees), are difficult to clone, meaning that most are grown from seeds.



How much light do they require? Light is easier to provide for Paphs than many other types of orchids. They are low light orchids, making them an easy orchid to cultivate in a house or shaded greenhouse. Many orchidists grow all of their Paphs in the same temperature range of about 60 -80 degrees F with good results. Our local climate seems ideal.

Do Paphs need a lot of space? The ones I have seen range from small to bigger, but not large. So if you don’t have a lot of space, this type of orchid might be perfect for you. Think apartment or townhome size is okay?

How much water should I give it? Paphs are unique from other orchids in that they do not have pseudobulbs, a water storing stem. Pseudobulbs are to orchids as humps are to camels. All of these plants need a moist medium, never soggy, but never dry. Water once or twice a week.

Fertilizer recommendation? Fertilize on a regular schedule. Care must be taken to avoid burning of the fleshy, hair roots. High-nitrogen fertilizer (such as 30-10-10) are recommended when potted in any fir-bark mix. In warm weather, some growers use half-strength application every two weeks, others use one quarter strength at every watering. It is important to flush with clear water monthly to leach excess fertilizer, which can burn roots.

How often should I repot? It should be done about every two years, or as the medium decomposes.

When will my Paph finish blooming? Once your plant has finished its 3-6 weeks of blooming, cut the spike down to the leaves and continue caring for it until it blooms again in about a year.



I hope this preparation information will make the Paphiopedilum presentation more meaningful for you.

Help Needed for Honolulu Orchid Show!



The Honolulu Orchid Society Show will be held on Oct. 13-14 at Washington Intermediate School at 1633 S. King Street in town. The overall theme of the show is “Festival of Orchids.” Our Kunia Orchid Society has accepted their invitation to mount a display.

The KOS Display Design Committee, composed of Larry Yamamoto, Noelle Sutherland, Cynthia Fuentes, Suzanne Yamada, and Leland Nakai, met on Sept. 14 and chose the fun theme “Mardi Gras of Orchids.” The colors of Mardi Gras are purple, green and gold, which nicely coordinate with the colors of many orchid species.

The committee is asking our members to please show off your blooming orchids for our display, and all colors are welcome! Scot

Mitamura says that many orchids like cattleyas, vandas, dendrobiums, miltonias and oncidiums are coming into flower now this fall season.

If in doubt, bring it anyway. Gerald Miyasato hesitated at first to bring his Miltassia Aztec but it won Best Oncidium Alliance Award at the Aiea Orchid Club Show in June!

We also need lots of filler plants that are well grown and uniform for our display. A few suggestions – hinahina, spider plants, Song of India, and ribbon plants. Set-up is on Thursday Oct. 12 so please drop off your orchids and filler plants from 9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.



Volunteers are welcome and needed to help with the set-up. We request that you arrive at 9:00 a.m. Volunteers can learn the basics of creating displays and also enjoy the camaraderie of fellow KOS members. HOS requires that displays must be completed no later than 2:00 p.m. But we will most likely be finished before noon, and lunch will be provided.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Board liaison Julianne Puzon at (808) 692-3800 or email her at hawaiijourneys@msn.com. She will be glad to email you the HOS rules and regs which contain information on plant registration, miniatures, and a list of awards and trophies to be given to winning orchids.

COMING SOON!
Honolulu Orchid Society Show
October 13 - 14
Washington Middle School Cafeteria
1633 South King Street, Honolulu



Kunia Orchid Society Plant Culture Winners!

Class 1 (11+ years)



Bulb.Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry' FCC/AOS Brs.Rex
Ken & Aileen Ching



"Penny's Luck"
Penny Hattal

Class 2 (6 - 10 years)



Lava Burst
Dale Mahi

Class 3 (0 - 5 years)



Cattleya Hybrid
Janine Mikasa

KOS General Membership Meeting,

October 3, 2023, 7:00PM
Mililani Ike Elementary School

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Speaker: Doug DeMoss



Kunia Orchid Society – 2023 Membership Application

\$20 New Membership (Jan 1 to Dec 31)

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

Check if your address has not changed.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____