



Kunia Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2025

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A Message from Our President

Dear Members of the Kunia Orchid Society & Friends,

It has been a very busy month with the conclusion of our 67th Annual Kunia Orchid Show & Plant Sale in our history book. Attributable to our show event, we are fortunate to welcome new members to KOS. We have the opportunity to appreciate orchids together and learn how to better grow orchids as we meet at each general meeting at the Mililani Ike Elementary School cafeteria on the first Tuesday of each month.

We appreciate all of our show committee chairman for their dedication and work: Suzanne Yamada who was in charge of setting up our beautiful show display and supervised our hosts and hostesses at the display area, Brad Lau who was in charge of our Plant Registration, properly registering every single orchid entered in the show and creating an identifying name card for each one Linda Kurihara was in charge of our membership table fielding questions and explaining to visitors the benefits that we offer at KOS, Aileen Ching set up our holding area and helped temporarily safeguard our visitors purchases while they continued to shop and enjoy the show, Joy Long supervised the greeting of our visitors upon arrival and help checking them out as they exited, Randy Kurihara and Max Nonies for our visible Security patrols in and out of the gym, Laura Figueira and Gary McCurdy for keeping track of our sales and donations, Dale Mahi who provided us with lunch for the two days of our show, Paul Mahi who was tasked to put up our many show signs in Wahiawa, Mililani, Crestview and Waipahu, Dawn Furumoto who ran our very busy and profitable Country Store, Guy Mikasa who attended our planning meetings and his contributions at the show, and Denise Stewart, our secretary, who was our favorite MC at the show and helped obtain sizeable donations for our Orchid Trophy Winners. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Leilehua High School Athletic Department with Athletic Director Nolan Tokuda. The athletes are always a big help, and we are glad that other LHS clubs were also able to fundraise at the show. I appreciate everyone that helped at the show, especially Suzanne Yamada and Laura Figueira who were constantly working with everyone and assisting me while I was on the mend.

Besides our show leaders, I am glad to announce that we had over 90% participation from our membership helping at the show. On Friday we greeted 1,499 visitors and on Saturday 1,257 visitors for a total of 2,756. I hope we'll have even more guests next year come and enjoy our 2026 show.

Thanks to everyone's help this year. Now that our 2025 show is over, our officers and board members are hoping for an even better show that will take place next March. With our current and new members, we certainly can do it. Now I can focus on taking better care of our (Ken & Aileen) personal orchid collection. Aileen says I got to stop killing so many orchids. For now, we can better enjoy our meetings and learn from our speakers planned for the rest of the year.

Sincerely,

Ken Ching

The Wonderful 2025 Kunia Orchid Show & Plant Sale!



Welcome to the Wonderland of Orchids was the theme of the 67th Kunia Orchid Show and Plant Sale. The event certainly lived up to its reputation as one of the best flowers shows on Oahu! Many thanks to the **Honolulu Orchid Society** (1st Place Floor Display), the **Aiea Orchid Club** (1st Place Table Display), the **Ewa Orchid Club** (2nd Place Table Display), and the **Mililani Orchid Society** (3rd Place Table display). Their participation gave the public an opportunity to view exceptional blooming specimens, artistically arranged to highlight the eternal beauty of orchids. Judging took place the night before the show and awards were presented to the winners at a ceremony on Friday. Congratulations to **Jeremy Domingo** for *Best in Show*, **Mel and Pam Waki** for *Best Flowering Specimen*, **Calvin Kumano** for both *Best Cattleya* and *Best Phalaenopsis in Show* and **Bernard Cabilao** for *Best Honohono in Show*, also known as the Callman Au Memorial Award. This year KOS was happy to welcome back the addition of an Ikebana display thanks to **Mrs. Connie Yoshioka** and members of her group. There were many positive comments on the beautiful display of this ancient art form. It was an impressive complement to the floor displays.



HOS 1st Place Floor Display



AOS 1st Place Table Display



Ewa Orchid Club 2nd Place Table Display



MOS 3rd Place Table Display

Also, of interest to those attending the show were the educational sessions for beginning orchid enthusiasts as well as more experienced orchid growers. Attendance was impressive at sessions on both Friday and Saturday. Mahalo to presenter **James Keach, Agent with the Department of Tropical Plants and Soil Sciences Office on Kauai**, who provided information on pest control and became a new KOS member! Veteran KOS members **Leland Nakai** spoke on vanda cultivation and **Ken Ching** did a hands-on session on potting honohono orchids. Due to the recruitment efforts of the Membership Table at the show, KOS was able to welcome dozens of new members. We hope to get to know all of them better at the monthly meetings when we share growing tips from guest speakers who share their expertise on orchid culture. The Country Store was as popular as ever, selling a multitude of donated garden plants, wooden baskets and pots and other necessities of orchid cultivation. Sales were brisk at various food booths that benefited the athletic department of Leilehua High School. We are deeply grateful to Director Nolan Tokuda and his students who help with the show each year. Mahalo to everyone who played a role in making the 67th Annual Kunia Orchid Show one to remember!



Kunia Orchid Society Display



Kunia Orchid Society (Not all members)

Our KOS Members Trophy & Award Winners at the 2025 Kunia Orchid show



Ken & Aileen Ching:	Best White Cattleya (<i>C. guatemalensis</i> "alba")
Flora Ferreira:	Best White Honohono (<i>Den. Anosmum</i> "alba")
Ken & Aileen Ching:	Best Other Vanda (<i>Vanda Suksamran Beauty</i> "Bubblicious")
Suzanne Yamada:	Best Lavender Dendrobium (<i>Den. Hawaiian Punch</i>)
Mel & Pam Waki	Best Other Dendrobium (<i>Den. Paul Paquette</i> "Waki")
Henry & Penny Hattal	Best Oncidium (<i>Brassia Rex</i> "Penny's Luck")
Ken & Aileen Chnig	Best Bulbophyllum (<i>Bul. vaginatum</i>)
Carol Kawamoto	Best Other Genera (<i>Masd. attenuata</i>)
Wendel Takase	Best Single-Flowered Slipper Orchid (<i>Paph. Winston Churchill</i>
"Indomitable")	
Carol Kawamoto	Best Miniature (<i>Orcp. bicornis</i>)
Carol Kawamoto	Honolulu Orchid Society Merit Award
Orcp. bicornis "Maddison" CCM HOS 84.0 points	

Thank you to all our members who brought blooming orchids to add to our KOS Show display. Also, to those that brought supporting non-orchid filler plants for our display. These are a critical part of our display when we do compete against other orchid societies at a show.

APRIL EDUCATION TOPIC

Orientation To Orchids, Our April Topic



We were fortunate to have Doug DeMoss provide our veteran members with a review of basic orchid growing principles and an introduction to orchids for some of our newer members. In my opinion, one of the most knowledgeable orchid growers in the State. Doug has planted his orchids in various types of containers, he now uses mainly plastic pots. Other orchid containers that he has used are cement pots especially for taller dendrobium orchids, terracotta or clay pots, and even mounts some of his orchids. He showed a sample of a *Cattleya aclandiae* which he mounted.

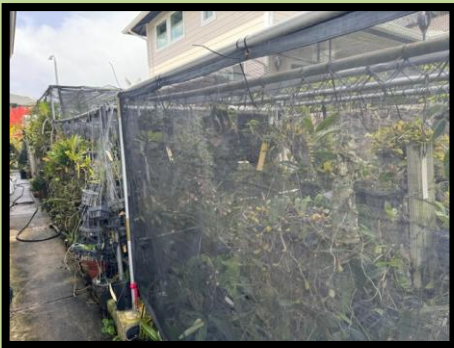
He has used various media for potting his orchids. Most of the time it is orchid bark and the only type of bark that he now uses is *Orchiata*, a New Zealand bark that is very firm and contains dolomite which is a calcium magnesium mineral. Where can you get *Orchiata* bark? At this time I only know of Koolau Farmers on Beretania Street in Honolulu but orchid growers in our Central Oahu area get theirs from Nutrient Ag Solutions in Kunia. It is cheaper there but they are open on weekdays and open for business only till 11:00 am. My favorite tip of the night is to pot my orchids with media to about an inch from the top, this encourages the roots not to climb out of the pot but turn down into the bark mixture in the pot.



General Membership Meeting
May 6, 2025
7:00 pm
Mililani Ike Elementary School Cafeteria

EDUCATION TOPIC

Following up to our "Introduction to Orchids" by Doug DeMoss in April, we will be learning "How to Build A Simple Shade House Using E-Z Corners" at our May meeting. You will see a simple shade house constructed at our next meeting, so we look forward to seeing you. With instructions, it will take about 20 minutes or less, to complete the framing and top shade cloth.



Kunia Orchid Society – 2025 Membership Application

- \$25 Annual Membership Dues
- \$15 Associate Membership (Spouse/Partner of paid member)
- \$15 Student Membership (Please include copy of student ID)

Tax Deductible Donation, if any:

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

Talent/Experience (i.e. Finance, Carpentry, Websites) _____