



# Windward Orchid News

Published monthly by the Windward Orchid Society, Inc., a non-profit organization  
[www.windwardorchidsociety.org](http://www.windwardorchidsociety.org)

Windward Orchid Society's **NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING** is scheduled for **Wednesday, January 8, 2014** at 7:30 p.m. in the King Intermediate School Cafeteria

Aloha Everyone

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and we certainly have a lot to be thankful for, anyway I certainly am grateful to all of you who help make our Silent Auction a tremendous success. Of course, Scot Mitamura is the man we should tip our hats of to for a well organized Auction Night. In spite of the rain people still came out to support us, 106, I believe was the count. WOW that was the most ever. Again Mahalo to all of you.

Christmas is around the corner and by the time you read this our Banquet will be over. If I did not see you at the Banquet I would like to take this to wish all of you Happy Holiday's and I will see all of you at the next Membership meeting on January 8, 2014.

God Bless  
Ahui Hou  
Dot Sakamoto  
President



## Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **NO WORKSHOPS AT DOT'S HOUSE FOR DECEMBER, 2013**
- ◆ **No General Membership Meeting in Dec, 2013**
- ◆ **Christmas Dinner on December 7, 2013 at the Main Banquet Hall, Bay View Golf Course**

## WOS Officers (2013-2014)

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### **WOS Corner:**

At our November Auction Nite, we had 79 members and 26 guests! Welcome to our new members: Kay Yates, Jeanne Snell and Maile Ohira.

**We will have a sign up a sheet for refreshments at the Membership table at our General Membership Meetings.**

New members, if you have a question about your orchids, please bring them in and we will gladly try to answer any questions you have about them. Please come to the 7:00 pm workshop or come and see Craig Nakahara (fluorescent green WOS shirt) when we have our General Membership Meeting.

### **WOS CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

**WHEN:** Saturday, December 7, 2012  
**WHERE:** Bay View Golf Course  
**TIME:** 5:00 P.M.—9:00 P.M. Dinner will be at 6:00 P.M.


**MENU:** Rice, salads, pulehu steak, mushroom chicken, sautéed mahimahi, assorted desserts, coffee and fruit punch.

Please bring a \$5.00 grab bag to the party for each member & guest.



Here are five interesting facts you may not have known about one of the most popular flowers in the world:

**1. There are more than 25,000 documented species of orchid, and scientists are finding more every day.**

The family *Orchidaceae* is [home](#)  to more than 25,000 flower species. Scientists suspect that there are more species in the topical areas of the world, and horticulturalists hybridize the flower to create new species that wouldn't occur in nature, and giving rise to some of the most popular varieties of the plant in existence.

**2. Orchids have a symmetry similar to human faces.**

Much of the reason orchids are so widespread is thanks in part to humans' affinity for and desire to grow them. The symmetry of the flower could have a lot to do with why people are so fond of orchids. An orchid has [bilateral symmetry](#) — like a human face — so if a line is drawn vertically down the middle of the flower, the two halves are mirror images of each other. When someone looks at an orchid, it looks back at you.

**3. Orchids are masters of deception.**

Orchids [deceive insects into pollinating them](#). The reproductive parts of many orchid flowers are shaped and colored to look like the kind of insect they hope to attract. Once the insect is interested, the orchid's pollen sticks to the bug until it flies off to find another orchid that it mistakes for a mate.

**4. Scientists found fossilized orchid pollen on the back of a bee.**

Pollen from an ancient orchid was found on the back of a bee encased in amber, as detailed in a 2007 study in the journal *Nature*. The fossil was dated to around 10 million or 15 million years ago, but there are those that suspect that the orchid family is far older. Some research even dates some species of orchid to around 120 million years ago, before the continents split into their current form. Two species of orchids whose natural habitats are thousands of miles apart are actually closely related. Scientists think that the plants probably had a common ancestor before they were separated by continental drift.

**5. Vanilla is a species of orchid.**

Perhaps one of the most popular species of orchids, the "flat leafed" vanilla plant is also one of the most widespread. Horticulturalists all over Latin America cultivate the plant for its flavorful charms.

## Orchid Tip of the Month by Scott Mitamura:

Winter starts in December, so the days are shorter, temperatures are cooler, and the winter rains all provide a challenge in keeping our orchids free of fungal infections. Avoid over watering, keep areas clean of dead leaves and flowers, and maintain adequate air circulation. Hono Honos are now going into dormancy, so stop fertilizing, and cut back on watering, allowing them to rest for two months. The leaves should start dropping and the buds should begin initiating in two months. Winter is also a slow time for flowering, so if you are short on flowers, make sure you attend the Christmas Banquet. We will be raffling off an unbelievable amount of flowering orchids, to brighten up your holiday season!



*May every joy  
of this wonderful season  
be yours,  
And may the new year  
bring you happiness.*

## WINDWARD ORCHID SOCIETY ORCHID SHOW & PLANT SALE

THEME: "Gorgeous Colors of Orchids"

DATES: March 21, 22 & 23, 2014

WHERE: King Intermediate School

Our Spring Show is just around the corner, and we would like all members to participate. If you have ideas on how we can market our show better, please contact Susan Lim at 728-1014 or email her at [slim@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:slim@hawaiiintel.net).



We are looking for donations to our Country Store to be sold at our Spring Show. No clothes. Any questions, please contact Toni Walker at 292-1407.

Admission is Free - donations are appreciated. We need your help in promoting our show and getting the word out to as many people and businesses as possible. **OUR CUSTOMERS DON'T HAVE TO BE ORCHID GROWERS TO ENJOY THE SHOW!**

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**REMINDER !!!**

Meeting to be held at  
King Intermediate  
school's Cafeteria

