



Windward Orchid News

Published monthly by the Windward Orchid Society, Inc., a non-profit organization
www.windwardorchidsociety.org

Windward Orchid Society's August 2020 Events Are Canceled.

A Message From Our Interim President

Aloha to all WOS members!

As Vice President, I have stepped into Craig Nakahara's position as your Interim President, just until we can vote for a new one.

Our Board recently met to discuss many important matters, including other soon-to-be open positions.

Please think about how you can help us to keep our club strong.

With Aloha,

Karen Kim

A Message From Our Former President

WOS Members,

I have truly enjoyed my year as your WOS President and have seen so many individuals step up to help out in the planning, setting up, getting volunteers, and most of all for everyone's support. We truly have a unique Orchid Society that always steps up to the plate, is full of curiosity and resilience, very generous, and definitely supportive of one another. I am a member of other clubs and organizations, but nothing compares to our WOS membership and how we work together to make everyone feel like a part of a big OHANA!!! As a member, committee chair, and officer, I can honestly say that it has been an honor to serve you in so many ways. Thank you for giving me the opportunities to serve all of you.

Unfortunately, my health has taken its toll on my ability to serve you as the WOS President over the past year and I must now face another challenge with cancer.

With the COVID-19, we have been unable to meet, but I know you have been very supportive and understanding. We've also had to deal with no Orchid Show this year, so our finances are down. Whether we can have a Spring Show next year is up for discussion, but you can count on the Board members to make a good decision and I hope that you will continue to support them, as I will, too. When the OK is given to hold meetings of up to 100 people and the school gives us the clearance, I hope you'll all come back excited and with your blooming plants.

I have also failed to follow-up on some tasks as the past Treasurer and it has jeopardized our organization's non-profit status, which we are hoping to regain in the near future. I accept full responsibility for this and want to express my deepest apologies for putting our WOS organization in this situation. I will be willing to assist the board in whatever it takes to regain the non-profit status.

As this will be my last message to the WOS membership as your president (I will have submitted my letter of resignation to the WOS board) I ask that you support my successor whomever he or she is, as I will too. We do have an "AWESOME" board that has brought in new speakers this past year, have held some great hands-on sessions, and have kept everyone informed through a great newsletter and website. I hope to see all of you at a future WOS meeting or show. Please continue to be safe and healthy!

With my deepest appreciation for the WOS membership,

Craig Nakahara

Aloha and Welcome to Our Newest Members

Michael & Cynthia Sutherland and Margaret Novack

Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

Here we are in the middle of our Hawaiian Summer. I hope we are taking advantage of our great weather and long days. In these summer days, our orchids can really grow and store energy for blooming. The question is: Are we taking advantage of it?

I'm hearing from some members that it is just too hot to go out into the yard and work on their orchids. I find myself spending almost every late afternoon and evening, working on my plants. It is actually recommended that, if you were to spray fertilizers or any insecticide, it should be done when the temperatures are cooling down. This way you minimize the chances of chemical burn.

Watering at night is fine. As long as you have good air circulation, you should not have fungal problems. In nature, most of the rainfall is in the afternoon and by evening the orchids are beginning to dry out. Wilbur Chang talked about how he always wanted to water his orchids in the morning. Once he retired he was able to make the change, but soon found that his orchids were not doing as well, so he went back to watering in the evening.

Living close to sea level can be challenging because the diurnal change in temperature may be only five degrees or less. Watering late may extend the change a few more degrees, which could make the difference in the blooming of a high elevation orchid.

Another benefit of evening orchid work is that you get to see what is happening at night. This is when the creepy crawlers emerge and do their damage. The main one is often our biggest problem, slugs and snails. This is their time. There are more than just the large African Snails, there are many smaller snails that may be hiding within your potting media. Tiny Bush Snails and others, often the size of a pin head, come out at night and feed on young root tips. In the day you will never see them and you may not even notice their damage to the orchid roots, but they can really set back your plants. To control them, very lightly sprinkle any commercial slug bait in and around your pots. Make sure that you do a follow up application withing two weeks, so you can kill the emerging young.

Another thing you might see are cockroaches! They come and feed on the sugars excreted by the new growths and flowers of the orchids (it's the same thing that the lizards do in the daytime, but at least they don't actually cause damage, as some folks feel). Cockroaches can also chew, yes chew, on flowers creating damage that mimics grasshopper damage. They love cattleyas and phalaenopsis! I like to control them by spraying the Bayer 3 in 1 on the spikes and buds. This must make the taste less appealing because it seems to deter the roaches, as well as the Bulbul birds.

Australian Roof Rats are also nocturnal and if you are not baiting, you will often see them at night in the trees, telephone wires and along roofs. They love anything sweet, so they love cattleya flowers! I have actually used a half eaten flower on a snap trap to kill a huge rat.

There are also enjoyable things at night in your greenhouse. Many white or green orchids are highly fragrant at night. They are the only visible colors to the night pollinators, in which the fragrance coincides with. The one that comes to mind is the sweet fragrance of *Rhyncholaelia digbyana*, it will knock you off your feet, when smelt at night. I think I will go out to my orchids now and enjoy my evening.

A reminder: Please send questions and photos to Orchid ER on our website and I will be happy to try to answer your questions. A benefit for me is that it gives me ideas on what to talk about in future newsletters. So no shame, surely someone else will have the same questions!

Aloha,
Scot

Windward Orchid Society Cookbook, 2nd Edition

Have you been cooking at home more? Have you pulled out favorite recipes you've not made in some time? Maybe you've tried some new recipes that were a hit with family.

Please share these with our Society to help create a 2nd Edition of our popular cookbook.

The first edition was a great fundraiser for the society. The cancellation of the annual show, which is our biggest revenue generator of the year, leaves us looking at various ways to create revenue to keep Windward Orchid Society alive and well until we can all gather again.

Please email recipes to [\(email address available on hard copy only\)](#).

Mahalo,
Wendy Saito

Please Remember to Renew Your Membership

Membership dues for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 were due on July 1st.

You can still download a Membership Application from the bottom of the Home Page on our website and mail it in soon.

For those of you that have already sent in your renewals:

THANK YOU!

We really appreciate your support, especially in these unusual times.

Sincerely,

The Windward Orchid Society (That's all of us together.)

Susan Lim Board Member Extraordinaire



We want to express our unending gratitude to Susan Lim for her decades of tremendous service to the Windward Orchid Society.

Most notably, Susan has been an incredible leader in organizing our gigantic Annual WOS Spring Shows for a great many years.

Susan is always in the thick of almost all of our events, shows, meetings and parties. She always rolls-up her sleeves and makes things work out right.

She has always been a humble and good humored powerhouse of a leader, by always encouraging others and finding ways for all of us to cooperate effectively and have fun while we do things.

But, to our loss, Susan has been called to other duties that led to her resignation as a Trustee.

We all want only the best for Susan and we want her to know how much she means to us.

With Warm Aloha,
The Windward Orchid Society

Looking Good!

Orchids Unmasked and **Orchid E.R.** on our website are growing more beautiful and interesting by the week.

Many Thanks to the following members who took the time this past month to send in their contributions:

Steve and Ruth Canham, Nadine Chun, Deborah & Fred Collins, Lee Deir, Elaine Higa, Walter Hiraishi, CJ Kalopodes, Bianca Kam, Patti Kawahakui, Diane Robello, Errol Rubin and our Orchid Doctor: Scot Mitamura.

Need an orchid fix? Please wander around these two webpages and enjoy the charming orchids and interesting stories, as well as the orchid questions and answers.

Members, please email pictures of your orchids for **Orchids Unmasked** and pictures and questions for **Orchid E.R.** to [\(email address available on hard copy only\)](#) along with the orchid's name, if known. We'll get them on our website for all to enjoy!

WOS Moving Forward

**WOS
Corner**

Sharon Harwood, our Director and Ariel Harwood, our Treasurer, are in the process of filing documents to have our non-profit status reinstated. It's a process and we just need to work through it.

Meanwhile, due to changes in the lives of some of our Board Members, the following positions are now open: President and one Trustee. Soon to be open will be Recording Secretary. Then, at our next election, we will need someone to produce our newsletters.

Because we have long serving Board Members stepping down, the search is on for members to step up.

Please contact us at [\(email address available on hard copy only\)](#) for more information on how you might fill one of these vacancies.

WOS Officers 2019-2020: Interim President Karen Kim Vice-President Karen Kim Recording Secretary Dawn Bonak Treasurer Ariel Harwood Corresponding Secretary Deborah Collins Trustees: (2019-2022) (Vacancy) Toni Walker Fred Collins (2018-2021) Duncan Chun Wendy Saito Dot Sakamoto (2017-2020) Steve Canham C.J. Kalopodes Scot Mitamura Director Sharon Harwood Membership Grace Nishigaya Hospitality/Refreshments (Vacancy)

Mail correspondence to: Windward Orchid Society, Inc. P.O. Box 23 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

The WOS meets on the first Wednesday of every month at the King Intermediate School Cafeteria (except in June & December), unless otherwise rescheduled by a pandemic.