

December 2020

Windward Orchid News

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WOS CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE AND PLANT GIVEAWAY

We've all missed our monthly meetings this year, and in lieu of our annual Christmas Party the WOS Board wants to offer a bit of holiday orchid cheer by sponsoring a fooddrive and plant giveaway for WOS members.

On December 12 from 1:00 to 5:00 pm we invite WOS members to bring unopened and non-perishable food items to a drive-through food drop-off and plant pick-up. Donating members of WOS and St. John's Lutheran Church (which is generously allowing WOS to use its parking lot) will receive a free box with several orchid plants and perhaps other interesting plants as well.

Please have all food items ready in the trunk of your car. One plant box per member for a minimum five of food items; no plant exchanges; plant boxes while supplies last. Masks and social distancing are required.

WOS will give the food to St. Anthony's Catholic Church Food Pantry in Kailua for distribution to needy Windward residents. This is a win-win! Your food gift will help people in need and in turn you will receive orchid plants to add to your collection.

WHEN: Saturday, December 12, 1:00 to 5:00 pm WHERE: St. John's Lutheran Church, 1004 Kailua Road, Kailua

Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

December 21 officially brings us into winter. It is actually the shortest day of the year, so each day after gets longer. The reason I am exited about this is that for some of us, our orchids are not doing too much and the onset of longer days will encourage more growth from our orchids. But still, this is a good blooming season for Phalaenopsis, complex Paphiopedilums, Cattleyas, Angreacums, and others. Hopefully, our orchids have stored enough energy over the long summer months to give us a flowering holiday spectacular! This Covid 19 year has given me record blooms thus far and I hope to continue my good cultural roll into next year.

Finally it's been a little cooler and combined with the shorter days, I notice that I can really cut back on my watering. In fact, during this last rainy bout, things got over watered and I started to get some Black Rot or Phytophthora. This is the blackening of leaves and stems. It is a fungus that is easily spread by splashing water. As soon as you see the infection starting, get out your torch and pruners and start cutting back the infected tissue. Apply fungicide to the infected orchid and surrounding areas and try to keep them dry and aerated. This nasty fungus gets into the orchids vascular system and can spread rapidly if not controlled.

As fungal infections appear, insect problems tend to lessen, but mollusk (slugs and snail) problems become rampant. We are seeing all kinds of mollusk damage on our Orchid ER website page, so I know what you guys are facing. Your control should be preventative instead of curative, because once the damage is done to the orchid, it may take years for it to recover. So apply your slug/snail bait and make sure you reapply within two weeks to get the new emerging young. In time, you will notice that different pests will attack our orchids at different times of the year, remembering this will allow you to take preventative actions, saving the damage to your valuable collection. My goal, is that soon you will be able to self diagnose your problems and you will no longer need my guidance. Only then will I know that I have succeeded in making you master orchidists!

Aloha, Scot

Having trouble emailing your orchid picture? Send an email without a picture to WOS808@yahoo.com for help.

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

Due to changes in the lives of some of our Board Members, the following positions are now open: <u>President</u>, one <u>Trustee</u>, and <u>Recording Secretary</u>. Then, at our next election, we will need someone to produce our <u>newsletters</u>. Please contact us at <u>(email address available on hard copy only)</u> for more information on how you might fill one of these vacancies.

Windward Orchid Society Cookbook, 2nd Edition needs your recipes. *Please help* us create a 2nd Edition of our popular cookbook. Email your favorite recipes to (email address available on hard copy only).



A Message From Our President

Aloha and Happy Holidays to All of You!

Because of these many months of having to keep a safe distance from one another, our club meetings and activities have been suspended. But, board member Wendy Saito came up with a brilliant idea to bring us together for a worthy cause. Plants are involved! You can find out all about it in this newsletter. It's so nice to have something fun to look forward to! Thank you, Wendy.

Are you loving your plants? I have some blooming Nodosa, my favorite orchid. Every evening walkers in my neighborhood get to enjoy their fragrance.

Take care of yourselves, be safe. Maybe we'll see each other soon.

With Aloha. Karen Kim, WOS President



Rita Figueira



It is with sadness that we are letting you know that WOS has lost a dear member. Rita Figueira past away in late October.

Rita often volunteered at our Spring Shows and enjoyed coming to our parties. She had a great smile and lived a full life.

She had a 35-year career with the Bank of Hawaii. Rita also completed her Bachelor's degree, Summa Cum Laude, from Chaminade University at age 60. She was active in the Kaneohe Business and Professional Women's Club, Toastmasters, and Friendship Force. Rita made her church home at St. Ann's Catholic Church. Rita was an avid Bridge player, made Hawaiian quilts, became a Reiki Master and was active in Tai Chi. She loved to travel and garden.

Our sincere condolences go out to her family. She will be missed.

With Warm Aloha, The Windward Orchid Society

Recent contributions by our membership to ORCHIDS UNMASKED and ORCHID E.R. at www.WindwardOrchidSociety.Org



By

Steve

By Walter Hiraishi





By Lynn Chang



By Bianca Marcum Kam



Bv

Sharon

Matsuyama



By Deborah Collins

Mahalo Nui Loa to the following members who sent in contributions in November.

By

Larry

Steve Canham, Lynn Chang, Deborah & Fred Collins, Walter Hiraishi, Bianca Kam, Patti Kawahakui, Larry Marcum, Sharon Mastuyama, and our Orchid Doctor: Scot Mitamura.

Contributions for December are Welcome at : (email address available on hard copy only).

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

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.