



P. O. BOX 23
KANEIOHE, HAWAII 96744

WOS Newsletter

A Windward Orchid Society Publication

Issue No. 2

August 1989

Windward Orchid Society Wins First Place at Aiea Show and Farm Fair *(The Ladies Did It!)* ♀

AIEA SHOW

Under the capable chairmanship of Irene Wong, the Windward Orchid Society won First Place in the "Best Society Display" category at the Aiea Orchid show held at Aiea High School from June 16 to 18. First prize was a cash award of \$100.00.

One hundred square feet of assigned space were successfully transformed into a tropical forest filled with gorgeous orchids of various species, hapuu, leather leaf and Boston ferns. Against this beautiful backdrop which showed our members' plants to great advantage, the following honors were awarded to our members for their entries:

"Best White Cattleya" for Randy Tajima's BLC Meditation 'Queen's Dowry' HCC/AOS; "Best Other Color Cattleya" for Scot and Karen Mitamura's BLC Mem. Dorothy Bertsch 'Amber' AM/AOS; "Best Miscellaneous Vanda" for Walter Hirai-shi's V. Hawaiiara Red Velvet; and "Best Strap Leaf Vanda" for Stella Sumida's Robert's Delight 'Waihee.'

Congratulations to you all!

Hawaii State Farm Fair

Co-chaired by our own dynamic duo, Leatrice Tamashiro and Marlene Lau, the Windward Orchid Society handily zapped away with \$240.00 in First Prize for the "Best Extra Large Display" at the Hawaii State Farm Fair held at McKinley High School from June 30 to July 3.

With the effective use of a miniature Koolau Range, banana trees, palm trees, ferns and about 130 exotic

orchid plants, 200 square feet of empty space were transformed into a replica of the lush Windward scenery for which we are singularly known. With this dramatic setting, the following WOS members won awards for their plants:

George and Irene Wong--"Best Strap Leaf Vanda" for their V. Takai Ogawa x V. Mabelmae Kamahale; Herbert and Marlene Lau--"Best Lavender Dendrobium" for their Den. Kauai Flare; Larry Kamiya--"Best Paphiopedilum" for his Paph. Iantha Stage; Stella Sumida--"Best Other Genera" for her Milt. Grin.

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WOS Wins Second Place at Leeward Orchid Show

"The third time's a charm -- or a major disaster!" said Farley Watanabe, our exhibit chairman, before going in to the Leeward Orchid Show, which was held at Waipahu High School on August 11 to 13. Well, it worked like a charm, Farley, because we won second place in the display category, which ain't exactly chopped liver.

In addition, the WOS won seven top awards out of the seventeen given, which left only ten other awards up for grabs among the remaining ten societies that participated--almost a monopoly, definitely a majority!

The awards we won were "Best Other Color Cattleya" for Scot and Karen Mitamura's BLC Toshie Aoki 'pizazz' AM/AOS; "Best White Dendrobium" for Edith Kozuma's Den. Dearei; "Best Lavender Dendrobium" for Roy Yahiro's Den. Bangkok Fancy; "Best

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How To Recognize Better Orchids ... Need More Space? This May Help You Select Which Plants Are Worth Keeping

Sooner or later--and for you beginners it may be much sooner than you think--you will be faced with making some hard choices as to which plants to keep and which ones to get rid of. Unless you have the luxury of having unlimited space, you will also be forced to be more selective in making future additions to your collection. After several years of experience cultivating orchids, you will begin to realize that some orchids are more beautiful and more treasured than others, personal and sentimental favorites notwithstanding. These so called "better" orchids meet certain standards of form and color which were developed by the American Orchid Society (AOS).

The American Orchid Society developed this system to accomplish the following: 1) grant recognition to superior forms of orchid species and hybrids; 2) recognize the development of improved hybrid forms; 3) encourage meritorious trends in hybridizing; and 4) reward horticultural skill in orchid growing.

The highest award, given to species or hybrids scoring 90 or more points on a 100-point scale, is the First Class Certificate, or FCC/AOS. The Award of Merit, or AM/AOS, recognizes a very fine though somewhat lesser achievement than the FCC/AOS, with a point range between 80 to 89 points inclusive. The great majority of "better" orchids, scoring from 75 to 79 points, receive a Highly Commended Certificate (HCC/AOS), which implies that while the flower is outstanding, there is room for improvement.

Rare and outstanding orchid species may receive a Certificate of Botanical Recognition (CBR/AOS). A well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology is awarded the

Certificate of Horticultural Merit (CHM/AOS). These characteristics may be aesthetic appeal or educational interest.

The beginning orchid grower may hope to attain the Certificate of Cultural Merit (CCM/AOS) because this award, rather than designating an individual flower of high quality, recognizes instead the high degree of cultural expertise with which the plant was grown. The CCM/AOS may be given more than once if the plant continues to thrive and increase in both the size and number of flowers. The Judges' Commendation (JC/AOS) is given for qualities of color and shape that the

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13th World Orchid Conference Planned For New Zealand

Plans are underway for the 13th World Orchid Conference to be held in Auckland, New Zealand in September 1990.

According to Lee Cooke, AOS Executive Director, travel options for the vacation of a lifetime are being lined up by Leona Bee Tours, orchid travel specialist. Many exciting pre- and post-conference tours including stops in Hawaii, Australia, Tahiti and Fiji are being planned.

This is one World Orchid Conference that no one wants to miss because it affords the unique opportunity not only to see one of the most majestic countries in the world but also to tour throughout Down Under.

If you're interested, start saving now! These tours are the most affordable packages available. Start planning with a friend. More details are forthcoming.

WOS Members Go On Hilo Orchid Tour

George and Violet Izumi, Robert Yee, Austin Yee, John and June Medler, May and Keith Kaneshiro, Jean Bowman, Hilda Matsuoka, Ted and Stella Sumida, Richard Thompson, Elsie and Harold Yonamine with grandson Sean Takata, took the first flight on Friday, June 30, for a three-day Hilo Orchid Tour.

One of the highlights of the tour was a two-and-a-half-hour tour on the Chain of Craters Road to Kalapana to see the hot lava across the highway which had demolished the Wahaula Visitor Center.

Orchid nurseries visited included Mori Akatsuka's orchid nursery, Carmela Orchids, Elaine Mishima's, Jim McCully's, Wade Okamoto's and Neil Okimoto's.

The WOS members took in the Hilo Orchid Show three days in a row to see the "Carousel of Orchids" and to buy plants.

Even Ted Sumida was buying plants at every stop, ending up with about 50 plants and compots. George Izumi loaded his suitcase with over 40 compots. Austin and Bob Yee nearly bought out Hawaii with 2 boxes of plants. Jane and John Medler said, "We are not buying any on this trip," but guess what? They ended up with one box full of plants. Richard Thompson found rare orchid plants in a flask for which he paid about \$40.00. All others ended up with at least a box of plants. Our future shows should produce some excellent show pieces when these are ready.

We saw Maui Orchid Society President Carol Gomes and VP Ann Reid at the Akatsuka orchid nursery buying a whole batch of orchid plants. Carol said, "Your WOS Newsletter was so interesting that I must join WOS so I can be assured of receiving a copy always." (Note: Carol just joined in August. Welcome aboard, Carol).

Jane Medler and the other WOS ladies wore their Spring Show T-shirts and made a very good impression at the Hilo orchid show. They want to make similar shirts for their shows. Jane gave them all the info requested. Watch for a big order, Ruth Little!

The Controversy over Sphagnum Moss

How safe is it to use sphagnum moss? There has been some debate lately as to the potential danger posed to the individual who handles sphagnum moss. Some advocates would have you believe that a real threat of contracting certain diseases such as sporotrichosis and mucormycosis exists merely by handling sphagnum.

Certain fungi do exist in sphagnum but they also exist in dirt and other media as well as in our general environment and are not considered to be a hazard. Chronic diseases caused by these fungi are extremely rare.

It is recommended that all media--bark, redwood, coconut husk fiber, sphagnum moss, hapuu, etc.--be soaked in a fungicide solution (Consan, Physan 20, or R.D. 20) for at least six hours before use. This would sanitize your medium and at the same time reduce transplant shock to your plants and incidence of mold and other fungi.

It would also be prudent to be careful if you happen to have a scratch, cut, or other abrasions on your hands. The use of gloves would reduce the risk of acquiring sporotrichosis otherwise known as "gardener's disease." This disease is most commonly caused by a scratch from thorns on rose bushes and the like.

Leeward Orchid Show

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Paphiopedilum" for Elizabeth Chang's Rothschildianum x Chamberlainianum; "Best Vandaceous Strap Leaf" for Judy Miyamoto's 'Blue Velvet'; "Best Vandaceous Other Genera" for Walter Hiraishi's Rnta. Lily Aow 'Dream City'; and "Best Other Genera" for Jean Inouye's Gram. Speciosum.

Farley wishes to thank all thirty-nine people who turned out to help him set up and break down the exhibit. Thanks also to George and Violet Izumi for their generosity in lending us the use of their place as a staging area for all our shows. Good show, all!

How To Recognize Better Orchids

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Judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in customary ways. The remaining two awards are the Award of Distinction (AD/AOS) and the Award of Quality (AQ/AOS), representing particular attempts to recognize worthy breeding trends and potential achievements.

Some of these award abbreviations may seem familiar to you as once they are bestowed, they are henceforth noted on your tag labels along with the genera, specie and name of the plant. It is suggested that this article be kept for future reference as it will help you identify better orchids when "push comes to shove" and you are faced with the heartbreaking task of purging your orchid collection.

The awards are alphabetically listed below for your ready reference:

- AD/AOS - Award of Distinction
- AM/AOS - Award of Merit
- AQ/AOS - Award of Quality
- CBR/AOS - Certificate of Botanical Recognition
- CHM/AOS - Certificate of Horticultural Merit
- CMM/AOS - Certificate of Cultural Merit
- FCC/AOS - First Class Certificate
- HCC/AOS - Highly Commended Certificate
- JC/AOS - Judges' Commendation

WOS Wins First Place

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Red ribbons were awarded to the following: Aer.Mitrata by Edith Kozuma; Den. Gatton Sunray by Randy Tajima; Paph. Vanguard by Larry Kamiya; Ascd. Lang 'Thonglor' AM/HOS by Roy Yahiro; and U. Rev. Masao Yamada by Harold Yonamine.

White ribbons were awarded to: Elizabeth Chang for her Epi Yousseause; Harold Yonamine for his Ascd. Pokai Victory x Pacific Sound; and George and Irene Wong for their Rnps. Embers.

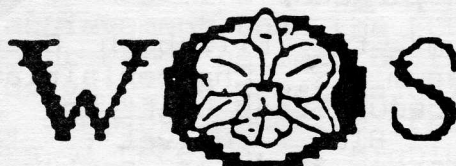
Congratulations everyone!

A special tribute goes to all three chairpersons--Irene, Leatrice and Marlene for a job well done. All three ladies modestly disclaim all credit, but we all know how critical the captain of the ship is to the success of the voyage.

Thank you to all those who cooperated in providing manpower, plants, transportation and inspiration. More important than the winning, we appreciate the camaraderie and spirit of ohana that make our Society very special.

Mahalo to all of you!

 * If at first you don't *
 * succeed, try trying! *



Windward Orchid Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 23
 Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

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