



Windward Orchid News

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

MAHALO!! WOS FOOD DRIVE AND PLANT GIVEAWAY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS



Thank you to all those who donated plants, masks, and to the helpers who made the plant box donation preparations go smoothly for the plant giveaway portion of our event.

Sheron Harwood
Ariel Harwood
Scot Mitamura
Wendy Saito
Susan Lim
Karen Kim
Duncan Chun
Stephen Canham
Dot Sakamoto

75 Boxes were prepared and all, but a handful were given out. Members were generous with their food donations. Included were members of St. John Lutheran Church donating food and also Windward Residents who saw the Food Collection Point sign.

All together we gathered **1187 pounds of food** which were donated to St. Anthony's food Pantry serving Windward Residents.

We hope to schedule more events, while observing social distancing and masks, in the next few months until we can meet again. Details will be in upcoming newsletters and email blast reminders.

If you have changed your contact information, or if you are not receiving our emails, please send us a note to WOS PO Box 23, Kaneohe, HI 96744 so we can update your contact information.

A Message From Our President

Aloha W.O.S. Friends!

Here we are at the end of 2020 already. What a worrisome, stressful year it has been.

Although we haven't been able to have monthly meetings or our show, I still got to see many of you at our recent food drive/ plant exchange in Kailua, organized by Wendy Saito. It was a success, thanks to all of you who donated lots of non-perishable food items, as well as those club members who generously donated orchids and other plants. It was an enjoyable day, with nice weather, too.

I think 2021 might bring us some better times, and we'll be checking with the school to find out when they'll open up so we can get back to our membership meetings. We'll let you know.

Happy New Year, everyone!!!

With Aloha,
Karen Kim, WOS President



Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

Here we are in the New Year and my what changes have we seen. Who would have thought that we would experience such changes to our lives.

For most of us, our orchids are one of the few things that have benefited from the extra time and care they have received from their home bound owners. I am seeing a huge resurgence in growing orchids, house plants, and vegetable gardening.

This brings some unexpected challenges. Getting orchid supplies! There is a terrible shortage of orchid bark, sphagnum moss, pots, bamboo stakes, and other orchid related supplies. Some of it is due to a slowdown of harvesting, but much of it is just that the demand is so high. Folks are staying home and working on their plants. Spring is the time when supplies normally become plentiful and garden shops run their advertisements. Hopefully we have enough to hold us until then.

My advise this year is to acquire enough materials, plus some extra. The commercial nurseries have really put a dent in supplies this past summer and fall, and I don't think supplies will improve much. Can you imagine, people are actually hoarding orchid supplies! If you are able to get supplies make sure you store all organic materials in cool dry areas. This will keep them fresh longer and hopefully mold and fungus free.

With all this extra time spent on our orchids, many of us are seeing our orchids blooming better than ever. Hopefully, one day we will have a show again, so we can share their beauty with others.

Aloha,
Scot

A Sampling of the Contributions by our Members to
ORCHIDS UNMASKED and **ORCHID E.R.** at
www.WindwardOrchidSociety.Org



By
 Gladys
 Roselani
 Nakoa



By
 Walter
 Hiraishi



By
 Bianca
 Kam



By
 Wendy
 Saito



By
 Elaine
 Higa



By
 Patti
 Kawahakui



By
 Sharon
 Matsuyama



By
 Diane
 Robello

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

Deborah & Fred Collins, Elaine Higa, Walter Hiraishi, Bianca Kam, Patti Kawahakui, Sharon Mastuyama, Gladys Roselani Nakoa, Diane Robello, Wendy Saito, and our Orchid Doctor: Scot Mitamura.

Visit our website for information on these wonderful orchids. Contributions for January are welcome at : [\(Email address available on hard copy only\)](#).

Botanists have Found the Ugliest Orchid in the World

Gastrodia agnicellus, from the forests of Madagascar, has been given the label of the world's ugliest orchid by botanists at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew in the UK.

Dr. Johan Hermans, discovered the orchid. He thought that the strange looking plant might smell like rotten flesh, as is common in some orchids pollinated by flies, but instead, the orchid surprised him with a "pleasant, citrusy, rose scent".

This orchid has an amazing life cycle. It has an on-the-ground woolly tuber, no leaves, and the flower slightly pops up underneath the leaf litter.



The flower of *Gastrodia agnicellus*, showing the stem and part of the rhizome. Image credit: Rick Burian.

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:

President, one Trustee, and Recording Secretary. Then, at our next election, we will need someone to produce our newsletters. Please contact us at [\(Email address available on hard copy only\)](#). 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 [\(Email address available on hard copy only\)](#).



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 Walker*
Fred Collins (2018-2021) *Duncan Chun* *Wendy Saito* *Dot Sakamoto* (2017-2020) *Steve Canham* *C.J. Kalopodes*
Scot Mitamura Director *Sheron 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.