

KAIMUKI ORCHID SOCIETY

JULY 2023

Kaimuki Orchid
Society, Inc.

P. O. Box 10203
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KaimukiOrchidSo-
ciety.org

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT MICHELE

Hi Everyone,

It is so hard to believe that half of the year has already passed us. I hope that everyone is doing fine and enjoying your orchids. The very last of my honohono is in bloom now. It is so sad to see the season come to an end. However, I didn't realize that the cattleya orchids begin to bloom right after the honohonos. Nice!!! But...three buds were eaten last night,. How disappointing!!!

Last month, we were so fortunate to have Heidi Bornhorst speak to us. What a delightful speaker, and she even brought some orchid cuttings to share. Hopefully, she will come speak to us again sometime in the future. Her presentation was not initially planned but arranged on a last minute basis. Her sister, Mimi, a new Kaimuki Orchid Society member, arranged for her to come talk to us. As it was unexpected, I apologize to those who missed it.

Board members are still trying to arrange something for August but nothing is finalized yet. I fell last week and am still sore and Alan wasn't feeling that well too. I learned something important...Don't put off what you can do today. I was doing great potting and repotting every morning. And for almost a week now, the most I can do is water, this after tripping and falling in the garden on concrete. So please be careful in all that you do.

Hope to see you at our next general meeting.

michele

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C. Hawaiian Wedding
Song 'Nancy'

JULY MEETING

Thursday, July 20, 2023

9:15 a.m. to 11:30 a.m

Kilauea Recreation Center, Kilauea District Park.

Program Topic - Phalaenopsis Culture

A general discussion on the culture of the phalaenopsis, also know as the moth orchid, a genus of about seventy species of plants in the family Orchidaceae. Orchids in this genus are monopodial epiphytes or lithophytes with long, coarse roots, short leafy stems and long lasting flat flowers arranged in a flowering stem..

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JUNE GENERAL MEETING

We had a very informative General Meeting in June. Well known arborist, landscape designer, and author, Heidi Bornhorst, provided the assembled with a wide range of tips and suggestions on how to identify and combat various pests that can affect our plants. With a challenge "...are there better ways than the use of pesticides?...", she introduced the concept of "IPM", integrated pest management, which includes such elements as: a) Observe, identify, and monitor pests and their activities, b) Use not-toxic solutions, like soapy water (1 Tbl. Dishwasher soap per/gal of water) , to combat pests, c) commercial products: 1) RAID - do not use inside house, 2) NEEM and VOLCK OIL - good but pricey. Additionally, she introduced the concept of "BMP", Best Management Practices and Biodynamic Agriculture, the latter is a philosophy of the use of manure and compost in lieu of synthetic (artificial) fertilizers, pesticides, and fertilizers as a means of caring for the environment and the personal health of ourselves and our pets. Some suggestions: a) use of a shallow tray of beer to attract and combat slugs as opposed to some of the toxic baits available commercially, b) use a mixture of boric acid and sugar, which ants like, and actually take back to their nests for further elimination, c) use egg shells, coffee grounds, and rice water to promote growth, and d) stay away from chemicals like formaldehyde, Malathion, and Sevin. The group liked the concept of using "Mechanical Intervention" to combat visual pests, yes, mash them! And finally, the employment of "Biological Control", the example, Lady Bugs. Overall, a vibrant and informative session with lots of practical solutions to common problems to take home. Ms. Bornhorst also provided cuttings of an orchid that she propagates in her back yard. Vanda Miss Jaquim [(Papilionanthe teres (Vanda teres) x Papilionanthe hookkerana (Vanda hookeriana)], the national flower of Singapore, enough cuttings for most attendees. As always there were a variety of plant and plant accessory door prizes for members.

BORIC ACID ANT KILLER RECIPE - FROM JAN TAKAMIYA

<u>INGREDIENTS</u>	<u>1/4 RECIPE</u>	<u>1/2 RECIPE</u>	<u>FULL RECIPE</u>
SUGAR	3/4 C	1 1/2 C	3 C
HOT WATER	1/4 C	1/2 C	1 C
BORIC ACID (ROACH PRUFF)	1 tsp.	2 tsp.	4 tsp.
COTTON (as needed)	-	-	-

Mix sugar and boric acid then add hot water. Stir until dissolved. Keep ingredients in a disposable container/jar. If using inside the home, place solution in a small disposable try or saturate some cotton and place on a piece of foil or plastic wrap to protect surfaces. For outside, place cotton in a pipe or large straw, drip solution on the cotton to wet it; then place in garden (horizontally) or tape it to walls etc. The pipe/straw protects the cotton from rain or watering. Do not disturb the ants while they "feed" on this solution. They will take this poison back to their nest, and the ants should be gone in several days. Keep away from children or pets. Repeat treatment as needed. Works well on the fast black ants and those tiny red ants (sugar ants) that can barely be seen.

HANDS-ON SESSION

JUNE - The June session was cancelled due unexpected circumstances.

JULY - Saturday, July 29, 9:00 -11:00 a.m., Alan Maii's home, 5228 Apo Drive in Aina Haina. Focus on general care and repotting, including some detail on phal culture. So if you have a plant that appears to need attention, bring it by. Michele will have some crafts and other items for sale that have been prepared to support the funding of KOS. There will also be some plant boxes and a few plants available for acquisition.

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**President Michele and guest presenter Heidi Bornhorst, with Vanda Miss Joaquim.
Flowers in the garden, courtesy of Jan and Ernie Nogawa**

KAWAMOTO ORCHID NURSERY - RETAIL SHOP

**Kawamoto Orchid Nursery has a wide variety of plants available for sale at their location in Palolo Valley.
The phals are in bloom with a wide selection of colors and sizes. Best prices in town.**

**Akatsuka Orchid Gardens has a new sale on plants. Check them out via the listed website.
WWW.AKATSUKAORCHID.COM**