

# The Honolulu Orchid Society

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## MARCH 2026 NEWSLETTER



Dendrobium thrysiflorum 'sworchids' CCM HOS  
Best in Show, 2025 Kunia Orchid Show  
Owner: S&W Orchids  
Awarded March 20, 2025

Newsletter Editor: Carol De Witt Contributing Editors: Mel Waki, Brad Lau & Josie Gesteuyala.  
Layout: Mel Waki. Contributing Photographers: Mel Waki, JoAnn Higuchi, Nathan Correia,  
Larry Kuekes & Dale Miyasaki  
Email: [hos@honoluluorchidsociety.org](mailto:hos@honoluluorchidsociety.org)

# HONOLULU ORCHID SOCIETY MARCH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Date:** Wednesday, March 11, 2026

**Time/Place:** 7:00 PM (doors open at 6:00 PM), Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria

**Program:** *The Great Silent Auction*

**Chaired by:** Brad Lau and Josie Gesteuyala

The Honolulu Orchid Society's Annual Great Silent Auction will be held at the Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria beginning at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 11, 2026. This is the Society's major fund raiser to fund orchid education, outreach programs and Society activities throughout the year. The auction is being chaired by **Brad Lau** and **Josie Gesteuyala**.

The following nurseries and backyard growers have pledged donations for the auction: **Akatsuka Orchid Gardens, Bromeliads Hawaii, Carmela Orchids, Ken Ching, Growing Creations Nursery, H&R Nurseries, Hawaii Hybrids, Hilo Orchid Farms, Kawamoto Orchid Nursery, Kodama Orchid Nursery, Calvin Kumano, Matt's Botanics, Mel & Pam Waki, Michael Ige Farms, Miyasato Orchids, Newman's Nursery, Nuuanu Orchids, Olomana Orchids, Orchid Eros, Pacific Island Nursery, Penny's Orchids, Quintal Farms, S&W Orchids, Sandalwood Orchids, Shogun Hawaii, Tropical Orchid Farm, Winning Orchids, and Larry Yamamoto.** Dendrobiums, Cattleyas, Paphiopedilums, Phalaenopsis and other genera are expected to be donated.

We are also seeking donations from HOS members and friends. If you plan to donate orchids, other plants or orchid supplies, please give **Brad Lau** ([bradlau23@gmail.com](mailto:bradlau23@gmail.com)) a heads-up via email. This is to help with planning. With or without notice your last-minute plant donations will still be welcomed at the door.

The **HOS Mini Country Store** will be in operation and is anticipating a great selection of donated baked goods, snacks, foods, jams, jellies, fruits and veggies. Food items must be

**The GREAT Silent AUCTION**  
7p.m. Wednesday  
**March 11, 2026**  
Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria  
717 North Kuakini St

**Orchids Plants Goodies**

**FLOWERS and more**  
donated by Hawaii plant nurseries and HOS members

Silent bidding 7-8p.m., live bidding to follow

This Honolulu Orchid Society fund-raiser is open to the public, and accepts cash or checks payable to HOS

[honoluluorchidsociety.org](http://honoluluorchidsociety.org)  
[hos@honoluluorchidsociety.org](mailto:hos@honoluluorchidsociety.org)

individually packaged or wrapped. The Mini Country Store will accept homemade craft items but is **NOT ACCEPTING** White Elephant sale items. All items brought to the Mini Country Store will be priced by the Country Store workers.

Please bring all plant donations and Country Store items to the cafeteria by 6:30 pm for set up. If possible, tell the person receiving the items the rough selling price. Fill out the **HOS 2026 Silent Auction Donated Items Form** on page 16 of this newsletter or prepare a legible itemized list of the items you bring. Include your name, mailing address, phone number and email address. Blank forms will be available at the auction. Turn in the completed forms to **Carol De Witt**.

Auction organizers and country store helpers will place all items received at the appropriate tables. We ask your cooperation to stay out of the right half (makai side) of the cafeteria so as not to hinder the auction setup.

**Only cash and checks** will be accepted for payment at the auction.

The **public is more than welcome** to attend and participate in the auction. The Silent Auction is an excellent opportunity to obtain unusual and quality plants at bargain prices. Boxes will be available but consider bringing your own boxes and trays to carry out your winnings.

The Silent Auction Rules and Procedures will be explained before the auction begins. The Auction Rules can be found [HERE](#). **Bidding will begin at around 7:15 PM and close at around 8:00 PM.**

There is ample free parking in the school parking lot. Refreshments will be served. **See you at the auction!!!**

**There will be no plant culture table at this meeting.**

## Mahalo Nui Loa

Mahalo to **Andrew Nowinski** for last month's presentation on pest control using natural organic solutions. He emphasized simple solutions like using Hoy Hoy traps to control roaches and Bounce Fabric Softener Sheets as an insect repellent. Yellow light helps deter bugs and moth balls can be used to kill carpenter bees. You can control ants with water and baking soda and most insects with a mixture of 91% alcohol and Dawn soap. **Andrew** brought many samples of products people can use



safely around the house. Although the presentation did not focus on orchids, the audience was captivated by the presentation since everyone seemed to have a problem with roaches, ants, flies, mosquitos, termites, bed bugs and other pests.

Mahalo to the following members and friends who brought in a great assortment of food and desserts to share with those in attendance at the February meeting:  
**Charlotte Yamamoto** – broccoli salad; **Karen Nagamine** – tortilla chips with guacamole; **Josie Gesteuyala** – cookie variety; **Jackie Lai** – boiled soybeans; **Karen & Sandie Torigoe** – bagged Barnam animal cookies; **Nathan & Jovie Correia** – cookies; **Linda Leong** – pretzels; **Bob & JoAnn Higuchi** – assorted bagged chips; **Debbi Putnam & Christina Wayton** - chocolate quinoa cookies; **June Yokomoto** – buffalo dip with ranch crackers; **Kathy Sakuda** – beef broccoli with cake noodles; **Jodie Domina** – mini quiche; **Shu Nalo** – almond cookies; **Lynda Takara** – naan bread with hummus; **Ruby Chan** – Girl Scout exploremores and thin mints cookies; **Shelley Miyahara** – fresh red cherries and Asian pears; **Barbara Paahao** – beef chow fun; and **Carol De Witt** – individual wrapped Godiva decadent dark chocolate with ganache.

## Kunia Orchid Show

The **Kunia Orchid Show and Plant Sale** will be held on Friday, March 20, 2026, and Saturday, March 21, 2026, at the **Leilehua High School Gymnasium**. The Show theme is **“March Madness”**.

The Honolulu Orchid Society has accepted an invitation from the Kunia Orchid Society to put up a floor display at the Show. **Set-up for the display** will be on **Thursday, March 19, 2025**. **Adam Almeida** will be chairing HOS’s display set-up. He is looking for props such as basketballs, hoops, jerseys and shoes. Text **Adam** at (808) 295-4842 if you have any props that can be used.

Blooming orchid plants, greeneries including hinahina and props for the HOS display should be brought to the **Leilehua High School Gymnasium** on Thursday, March 19, 2026 by 9:00 AM. The goal is to complete the display by 2:00 PM. Plants for the display should be staked and if need be, placed in a larger pot so the plants can stand alone without falling over when placed in the display.

Register your orchid plants with the Show Registration Desk before leaving the plants at the HOS display area. All plants and props should be labeled with your name so they can be identified and returned to you at breakdown.

**Adam Almeida** and the display set-up committee can use your help if you are free on Thursday (9:00 AM–2:00 PM) and at breakdown (4:00 PM) on Saturday. Lunch will be provided for those that stay to help with the display setup. Let’s all work together and create a great display. If you have any questions, feel free to call or text **Adam**.



2026!

68<sup>th</sup>  
**KUNIA ORCHID  
SHOW  
& PLANT SALE**

Leilehua High School Gymnasium  
1515 California Avenue in Wahiawa

Friday, March 20 9am – 5pm  
Saturday, March 21 9am – 4pm

**FREE ADMISSION!**  
**Prize Winning Orchids  
& Floral Displays**

\* Orchid Culture Demonstrations  
11am & 1pm on Friday & Saturday  
\* Kunia Country Store  
\* Garden Supplies

Presented by the  
**Kunia Orchid Society**  
& the Leilehua High School Athletic Department  
Donations Welcome!  
For more information call 808-228-2800  
[kuniaorchidsociety.org](http://kuniaorchidsociety.org)  
[www.facebook.com/KuniaOrchidSociety](https://www.facebook.com/KuniaOrchidSociety)



44TH ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW & PLANT SALE

*Stars of the Show  
Orchids Galore*

S.W. King Intermediate School  
46-155 Kamehameha Highway, Kaneohe  
(Two Blocks North of Windward Mall)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026	10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2026*	10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

\*Plant sales close 2 p.m. on Sunday

FREE ADMISSION  
(Donations Welcome)

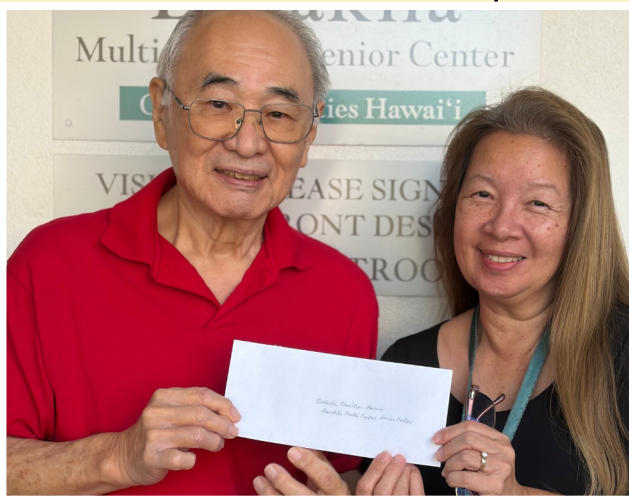
[www.windwardorchidsociety.org](http://www.windwardorchidsociety.org)



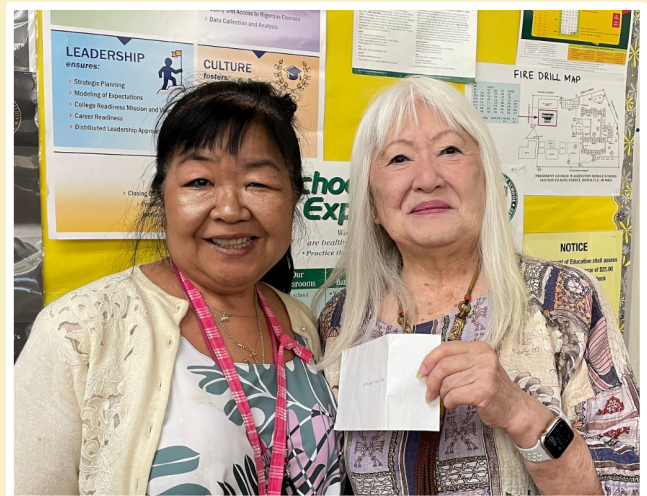

## Windward Orchid Show

During the same weekend as the Kunia Orchid Show, the **Windward Orchid Society** will be having their **44th Annual Orchid Show and Plant Sale** at the S. W. King Intermediate School Cafeteria. The Show will be held on Friday and Saturday, March 20 and 21, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and on Sunday, March 22, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 3 PM (plant sales close at 2:00 PM Sunday). Anyone wishing to display their orchid plants at the Windward Orchid Show can do so by bringing and registering their plants by 10:00 am on Thursday, March 19, 2025. Judging will be done by the **American Orchid Society** judges.

## HOS Donation Checks Delivered



HOS Trustee **Bob Higuchi** delivered a \$2,000 check to the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center (LMPSC). The check was accepted by **Susie Chun Oakland**, Program Director of the LMPSC.



HOS 2<sup>nd</sup> VP **Kathy Sakuda** delivered a \$4,000 check to Washington Middle School. Accepting the check in the absence of School Principal **Mike Harano** was SASA **Lorrie Kuwata**.

## Plant Culture Table at the February Meeting

At last month's General Membership meeting, 15 plants were brought in by members for the Plant Culture Table. 8 plants were in the **Novice Category** (up to 4 years of growing orchids) and 7 plants were in the **Master's Category** (more than 4 years of growing orchids). During the refreshment break, the audience was given the opportunity to vote for the best in each category. Their choices based on flower appearance, fragrance, uniqueness or overall plant growth are shown below. The plants for the plant culture winners were provided by the **Honolulu Orchid Society**.

### Novice Category



**1st Place:** Mps. Red Tide  
Grown by **Sandie Torigoe**

### Masters Category



**1st Place:** Den. smillieae  
Grown by **Brad Lau**



**2nd Place:** Coel. wenzelii  
Grown by **Kathy Sakuda**



**2nd Place:** Rlc. Fritz Nicholas 'Spring Dance'  
Grown by **Josie Gesteuyala**

## **Last Chance to Pay Your Dues**

Membership dues for 2026 are due. Those who have already paid, thank you very much. Members who joined or renewed after October 1, 2025, will be included in the 2026 HOS membership roster which will be good until December 31, 2026.

For the rest of you, if we don't receive your dues by March 31, we will have to drop you from our membership roster. Please do not make us do that. Call or text **Carol De Witt** at (808) 597-4087 if you are not sure if you renewed.

Dues are still only \$25 for Regular Members, \$5 for Associate Members (spouse or children of the same household) and \$10 for Students.

We encourage people to renew or join online using the membership portal on the Honolulu Orchid Society website. The portal accepts credit card payment for membership dues. Click [HERE](#) to go to the HOS membership join/renew portal.

If you prefer to mail in your membership dues, you may do so using the application form at this [LINK](#). Complete the application form and mail with your check made payable to Honolulu Orchid Society to HOS Membership Committee, P. O. Box 558, Honolulu HI 96809-0558

## **Calendar of Events for March 2026**

- **Tuesday, March 10, 7:00 PM**  
HOS Board Meeting  
Zoom Video Conference
- **Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 PM**  
The Great Silent Auction  
Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria
- **Thursday, March 19, 9:00 AM - 2 PM**  
Set-Up of HOS Display  
Kunia Orchid Show, Leilehua High School Gymnasium
- **Thursday, March 19, 5:00 PM-9:00 PM**  
HOS Orchid Judging  
Kunia Orchid Show, Leilehua High School Gymnasium
- **Friday, March 20, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM**  
Kunia Orchid Show, Leilehua High School Gymnasium
- **Friday, March 20, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM**  
Windward Orchid Society Show,  
S.W. King Intermediate School Cafeteria
- **Saturday, March 21, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**  
Kunia Orchid Show, Leilehua High School Gymnasium
- **Saturday, March 21, 4:00 PM**  
Breakdown and Cleanup of HOS Display,  
Kunia Orchid Show, Leilehua High School Gymnasium
- **Saturday, March 21, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM**  
Windward Orchid Society Show,  
S.W. King Intermediate School Cafeteria
- **Sunday, March 22, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM**  
Windward Orchid Society Show,  
S.W. King Intermediate School Cafeteria

## **Monetary Donations**

- **Mimi Bornhorst**, Honolulu
- **Kate Leonard & Ian Sandison**, Honolulu

*Thank you for your generous monetary donations.*

## **Welcome New Member**

- **Sarah Yiu**, Honolulu (Associate Member of **Adam Almeida**)

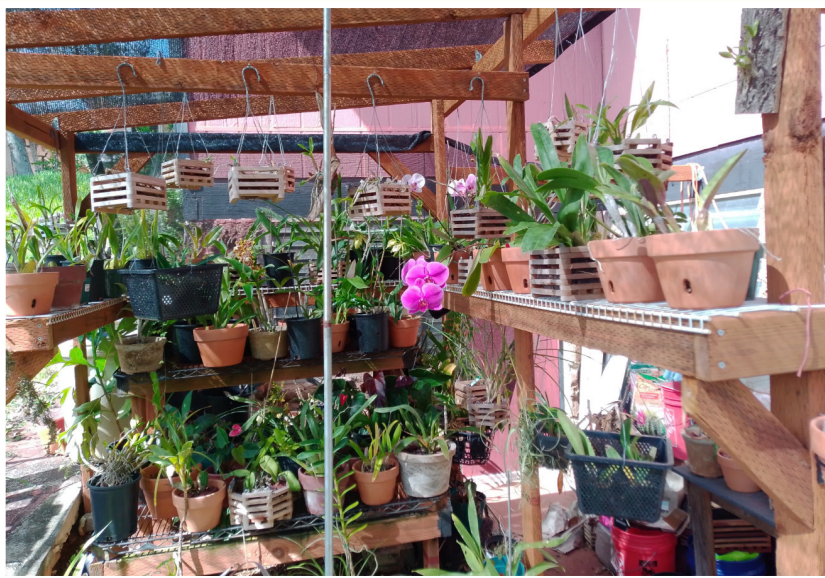
*Welcome to the Society. We look forward to meeting you at our meetings.*

## Getting to Know Our Members Nathan and Jovie Correia by Mel Waki

**Nathan and Jovie Correia** are new members of the Honolulu Orchid Society (they joined in July 2025). They live in Kalihi Valley. **Nathan** is a retired U.S. Army Weapons Repair Specialist while **Jovie** is working in the Pricing Department of KYD, Inc., a packing and distributing company in Honolulu. They have about 100 orchid plants, mostly Dendrobiums and Cattleyas. They have some Oncidiums and Phalaenopsis. The orchids are grown outside of their house under shade cloth. They love orchids and joined the Society to learn more about growing them.



They have been attending meetings regularly and were very active helping at last year's Honolulu Orchid Society Show. **Nathan** enjoys wood working while **Jovie** does crafts and grows succulents along with the orchids. They recently visited the Big Island but were disappointed when they missed the Kilauea Volcano eruption by one day. **Nathan** is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the American Legion. Be sure to say HI to **Nathan** and **Jovie** when you see them at Society meetings and functions.



**Nathan** recently built this shade house next to their residence. Every space is utilized. His media of choice is a mixture of rock, charcoal and bark. Photos by **Nathan Correia**.

## Orchid Stories – Darwin’s Orchid

by Larry Kuekes

After **Charles Darwin** published *The Origin of Species*, his groundbreaking book setting forth the theory of evolution, his next book was, of all things, a book on orchids, called *The Various Contrivances by Which Orchids Are Fertilised by Insects*. Was this the work of a dilettante, flitting from one subject to another? Not at all. In fact, this book presents supporting evidence for the theory of evolution. Darwin happened to pick orchids as the subject, perhaps because orchids were popular in Victorian England.

I have read this book, but I don’t recommend it, because frankly, it’s very dull – descriptions of minute flower structures of species after species, genus after genus, for 300 pages. But there is one passage that has become famous:

*“The Angraecum sesquipedale, of which the large six-rayed flowers, like stars formed of snow-white wax, have excited the admiration of travellers in Madagascar, must not be passed over. A green, whip-like nectary of astonishing length hangs down beneath the labellum. In several flowers sent me by Mr. Bateman I found the nectaries eleven and a half inches long, with only the lower inch and a half filled with nectar. What can be the use, it may be asked, of a nectary of such disproportionate length?”*



Angraecum sesquipedale with its nearly foot-long nectar tube. Photo by **Larry Kuekes**.

Darwin went on to explain that there must exist a moth with a tongue at least ten inches long that pollinates the flower. He found that if a moth merely inserted its thin proboscis into the nectary (the nectar tube), it would not remove the pollen; the moth needed to actually press its head up against the flower in order for the orchid to be pollinated. The orchid forces the moth to do that by keeping the nectar at the bottom of the tube, so the moth has to insert its tongue as far as it can.

Now comes the interesting evolutionary observation. Darwin knew that in all creatures, variation occurs that can be inherited, though he didn’t know why (we now know it’s due to genetic mutations). He reasoned that some of the moths that pollinate this orchid may have shorter tongues and some longer. The ones with longer tongues will be able to reach more food, so more of them will survive. And some plants of this orchid species may have shorter nectar tubes and some longer. Remember that if the moth doesn’t stick its tongue all the way in, the orchid doesn’t get pollinated. So only the orchids with the longer tubes will set seed. The result is a kind of “arms race”,

where over time, both the moth's tongue and the orchid's tube keep getting longer and longer. This idea of two species evolving together is now called co-evolution. Separately, the orchid's long tube and the moth's long tongue just seem silly. Together, in the light of the theory of evolution, everything makes sense.

Some entomologists ridiculed Darwin for predicting a moth with a ten-inch tongue, but twenty years after Darwin's death, the moth was found. In 1992, 130 years after Darwin predicted it, the moth was finally observed pollinating *Angraecum sesquipedale*, now fittingly called Darwin's orchid.

*This article appeared in the February 2026 issue of the Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter and is reprinted here with the approval of **Larry Kuekes**. **Larry** grew up in Connecticut, graduated from Yale University and worked with computers in Hartford, Connecticut for most of his career. He got into orchids in Connecticut and was president of the Connecticut Orchid Society. He retired and moved to Hilo in 2010. He is a past president of the Hilo Orchid Society and the editor of the Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter.*

## I Ordered a Flask by Brandon Isokane

**Brandon** is a member of the Honolulu Orchid Society. He lives in lower Manoa and grows his orchids in his backyard. He regularly attends Society meetings and orchids shows.

I ordered a flask of this beautiful orchid named Rth. Kensie Kira 'Volcano Queen' from a nursery on the Big Island. The total cost was \$92.30 which included shipping. These are mericlone seedlings that will take at least 3 years to bloom. The flask has 35 to 45 plants in it. The mericlones are made under sterile conditions at an overseas laboratory. Nurseries send cuttings of the mother plant to the laboratory where they are germinated and grown in flasks. It takes 1 to 2 years for the plantlets to be large enough to be shipped back to the nursery. Nurseries will usually plant the little tiny seedlings into a tray or 2-inch pots and grow them bigger before putting the plants up for sale. Some flasks may be offered for sale like the ones for Rth. Kensie Kira. I can't wait to receive my flask. I plan to plant the orchid seedlings into 2-inch pots using New Zealand sphagnum moss as the media. This is my first venture with purchasing a flask. Wish me luck. I'll let you know how it goes.



## My Orchid Received a FCC

by Dale Miyasaki

*Dale is a member of the Honolulu Orchid Society (HOS). He is an Accredited Judge with HOS and the American Orchid Society (AOS). He is the owner of Nuuanu Orchids, one of the vendors at the Honolulu Orchid Society Show.*

My Dendrobium (Den.) Royal Chip 'Pink Surprise' was recently awarded a First Class Certificate (FCC) by the American Orchid Society (AOS) with a score of 90 pts. FCC is the highest flower quality award granted to awarded orchids scoring 90 to 100 points on a 100-point scale. It signifies an exceptionally high standard of form, color, and substance. This prestigious award is reserved for the finest examples of orchid species or hybrids.

The plant was judged at the AOS Hawaii Center Monthly Judging at the Higashi Hongwanji Mission in Honolulu on November 18, 2025. The plant had twenty-one exceptional and strikingly colored flowers and forty-two buds on twelve upright inflorescences.



The plant had twenty-one exceptional and strikingly colored flowers. Photo by **Dale Miyasaki**.

Den. Royal Chip is a hybrid of Den. Micro Chip x Den. Roy Tokunaga. This cultivar normally opens white, and the pink coloration appears in a few days. This time the weather was very cold when the buds opened, and the pink coloration was present at opening and was very intense. The flowers were commended for their striking coloration. Den. Royal Chip was made by Roy Tokunaga at H&R Nurseries. I got the plant in a shipment of assorted Latourea dendrobiums from the Big Island. Lucky for me, it is one of the plants that did not sell at one of my plant sales. There was no pink color on the petals at that time. The plant is grown under 50 percent shade at my nursery in Nuuanu.

### Looking Beyond March 2026 HOS General Membership Meetings & Functions

- **Wednesday, April 8-General Membership Meeting**, Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria (doors open at 6:30 PM), Speaker: **Doug DeMoss** - Growing Habenarias
- **Saturday, April 11-HOS Judging**, Lanakila Multi Purpose Senior Center (plant registration begins at 9:30 AM)
- **Saturday, May 9-HOS Judging**, Lanakila Multi Purpose Senior Center (plant registration begins at 9:30 AM)
- **Wednesday, May 13-General Membership Meeting**, Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria (doors open at 6:30 PM), Speaker: **Amjad Ahmad**
- **Monday, May 25-HOS Judging**, Aiea Orchid Club Meeting, Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria (plant registration 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM)

## Honolulu Orchid Society Judging in February

**Saturday, February 14, 2026, Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center.** Six plants were registered for judging at the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center. Two plants were judged and awarded Award of Merit (AM). The awarded plants are designated as Awards 2026-03 and 2026-04.

**Monday, February 23, 2026, Aiea Orchid Club Meeting.** Eight plants were displayed and registered at the Aiea Orchid Club Meeting at the Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria. Two plants were judged and awarded. One plant was given an AM (Award 2026-05) and the other was given a Certificate of Cultural Merit (CCM) (Award 2026-06).

Photographs of the plants awarded in February are shown below and continued on the next page. Photographs and descriptions of the all of the plants awarded in 2026 and prior years are available on the [Award Gallery](#) of the HOS Website.

The **next HOS Judging session will be held on Thursday, March 19, 2026**, at the Kunia Orchid Show in the Leilehua High School Gymnasium. Anyone can bring their plants for judging. You do not have to be a member of HOS to have your plants judged. Plant registration is between 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM.



Award No. 2026-03  
**Rth. Izumi Spirit 'Lemon Drop'**  
AM HOS (80.6 Pts.)  
Owners: **Scot & Karen Mitamura**



Award No. 2026-04  
**Den. Roy Tokunaga 'Pacific Heights'**  
AM HOS (84.0 Pts.)  
Owners: **Kate Leonard & Ian Sandison**



Award No. 2026-05  
**Phal. I-Hsin Pure Snow 'Lauren'**  
AM HOS (83.4 Pts.)  
Owner: **Calvin Kumano**



Award No. 2026-06  
**Epi. centropetalum 'Sweetie'**  
CCM HOS (88.7 Pts.)  
Owner: **Jan Takamiya**

# Recipe of the Month

## Blueberry Biscuits

by Jamie of My Baking Addiction ([www.mybakingaddiction.com/blueberry-biscuits](http://www.mybakingaddiction.com/blueberry-biscuits))

Tall, fluffy blueberry biscuits are topped with honey butter for a perfectly sweet start to the day. This easy recipe requires zero cutting or rolling!

**Prep Time** -15 minutes **Cook Time** - 40 minutes **Cooling Time** - 15 minutes  
**Total Time** - 1 hour 10minutes **Servings** -9 biscuits

### Ingredients

#### For the biscuits:

- 11 tablespoons unsalted butter cold, divided use
- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 ¼ teaspoons fine sea salt
- 1 ½ cups fresh blueberries
- 1 ⅔ cups cold buttermilk

#### For the honey butter:

- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 tablespoon honey
- Pinch of salt



### Instructions

- Preheat the oven to 400°F. Place 1 tablespoon of the butter in an 8x8-inch baking pan and place it in the oven for about 3-5 minutes while the oven preheats. Once the butter is melted, brush it across the bottom and up the sides of the pan. Set aside.
- Cut the remaining butter into small pieces. Keep cold until you are ready to use it.
- In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, and salt. Add the cold butter pieces; toss in the flour mixture, then use your fingertips to smash the butter into flat, irregular pieces.
- Add the blueberries and toss to combine. Gently stir in the buttermilk until no dry pockets of flour remain.
- Transfer the dough to the prepared baking pan. Use a spatula to spread the dough evenly across the pan, including into the corners.
- Lightly spray a bench scraper with nonstick cooking spray and use it to score the dough into 9 equal squares, but do not separate.
- Bake for 40-45 minutes or until the tops of the biscuits are browned and a paring knife inserted into the center biscuit comes out clean. Let the biscuits cool for 5 minutes.
- Prepare the honey butter: In a small microwave-safe bowl, combine the butter, honey, and salt. Microwave until the butter is melted, 30-60 seconds, and stir to combine.

- After the biscuits have cooled for 5 minutes, turn them out onto a baking sheet, then flip them back onto a wire rack (they should be top-side up again). Brush the tops with all of the honey butter. Cool for an additional 10 minutes before using a serrated knife to cut the biscuits along the scored marks. Serve warm.

### **Notes**

If smashing the butter with your fingers is inaccessible for you, feel free to work the cold butter into the dry ingredients using a pastry blender or food processor until the mixture resembles coarse meal.

If you do not have fresh blueberries, you can use frozen instead. Do not thaw the frozen blueberries before adding them to the dry ingredients. Keep in mind that even while still frozen, they may still discolor the batter a bit more than fresh blueberries will.

*Very slightly tweaked from America's Test Kitchen via Reddit.*

## **Scot's Orchid Tip of the Month**

**by Scot Mitamura**

*This article appeared in the March 2026 issue of the Windward Orchid Society Newsletter and is reprinted here with the approval of Scot Mitamura and the Windward Orchid Society.*

### **Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura**

Time is surely flying by this year. The start of Spring is March 20, which coincides with our annual Spring Show. This year the dates will be March 20, 21 and 22. This is always a busy time for us in preparation for the show. Many orchids are responding to the longer day length and warming temperatures and are spiking or need re-potting. But so are the insects, slugs and snails, and weeds! I just can't seem to keep up.

I hope we have already pulled our orchids that are in spike or budding, and have started protecting them from the wind and rain. Fortunately, I did not have any structural damage to my greenhouses in the wind, but had numerous broken branches and many flying pots! I know we are going to be short on plants for the show, so I'm desperately pulling as much as I can to stake them early, so we have enough orchids for the show. Also, don't forget to protect them from Bul Bul Birds and thrips. I like to spray preventative insecticide on my spikes and buds to keep the thrips away. Speaking of thrips, hopefully your Hono Hono is starting to bud, if they are, spray the bud initials as soon as they emerge from the stem, so that the thrips don't feed on them, drying them and turning them brown. I think our Hono Hono season will be late or not be very good this year, with all the rain and thrips. Despite not being able to dry my Hono Hono, we are having some cool weather, so I am hopeful and am seeing some buds. Three triggers are involved with Hono Hono blooming, shortened day length, dryness, and lower temperature. We don't need all of these to occur and we have had two, so I'm still hopeful that we will have many plants at the show, but don't count on me! Aloha, Scot

