

## Inside This Issue

PG. 2

Club happenings

PG. 3

Members Blooming plants

PG. 6

Meeting our Board Members

PG. 7

Check list for January and February



Keith Kaufman - Vanda hybrid from the Holiday Party

*“Educating our members and the public about the collection, culture and appreciation of orchids.”*

### A Message from our president

Happy New Year Everyone,

While out working with my plants I found myself to not only thankful for not having to deal with the cold and snow as on the mainland, but I was also excited to see so many of my phalaenopsis going into spike. Just when we think there is not much going on with our plants, they surprise us with spikes and buds. The joys of gardening.

As some our plants are budding, the club is, as well, with this being our first full year of meetings and projects in over 2 years. The board continues to add new events, make changes to others, to bring in new speakers and to work with other societies to keep up our enthusiasm.

I am greatly looking forward to what 2023 has to offer.

# Club happenings

## 2023 Work Parties

- February 18** - Orchid Isle Project
- March 25** - Repotting Help
- April 15** - Building a Mini Display
- May 13** - Mother's Day Sale
- June 17** - Growing from Flask to 4 inch
- July 15** - Elevation Garden Tour
- August 19** - Treating Diseases and Pests
- September 16** - Mounting Orchids
- October 21** - How to grow Vanilla
- November 18** - Orchid Isle Project

## 2023 Membership Dues

If you have not paid your dues please bring your check to the February 3 meeting \$25 per member.

## January Board Meeting

- The club is looking for a member to store several bins measuring a total space of 2 feet wide x 10 feet long x 4 feet tall. These are supplies for the Mother's Day Sale, we would only need to access them during that time. If anyone is able to spare some space, please email us. Mahalo

We welcome any and all ideas for speaker topics and activities

Please let us know if you have any speakers or topics you would like to learn about in 2023

## Club T-shirts

New club shirts have been ordered!!

Woman's will be V-neck, all cotton, and available in 3 colors: Lime, Sangria or Raspberry

Tank tops are scoop neck, all cotton, and available in 2 colors: Bright Green or Bright Pink

Men's available in 3 colors:



If there is a shirt color, size, or type that would like that we have not offered please let us know and we can have it made.

## Upcoming Speakers

**February 3** - Roy, H&R Orchids- Growing in Hawaii

**March 3** - Member Plant Swap/ Sale

**April 7** - Frank Cervera- Phags

**May 5** - Mother's Day Sale

**June 2**- Bob Herris- raising Keiki to 4 inch

**July 7**- Carol Klonowski ?

**August 5**- Club Picknick

## Member Plant Show and Tell

Mahalo to all the members that shared their blooming orchids.

Please email your photos of blooming plants to [kos@konaorchidsociety.org](mailto:kos@konaorchidsociety.org) to be included.

*Feel free to send photos of problem orchids so we can help.*



Cattleya hybrid, Travis Burgeson



LC. Gold Digger, Anita Kelliher



Cattleya hybrid, Kathy Penwell



Vanda Hybrid-George Poppas, Stay Johnson

## Member Plant Show and Tell



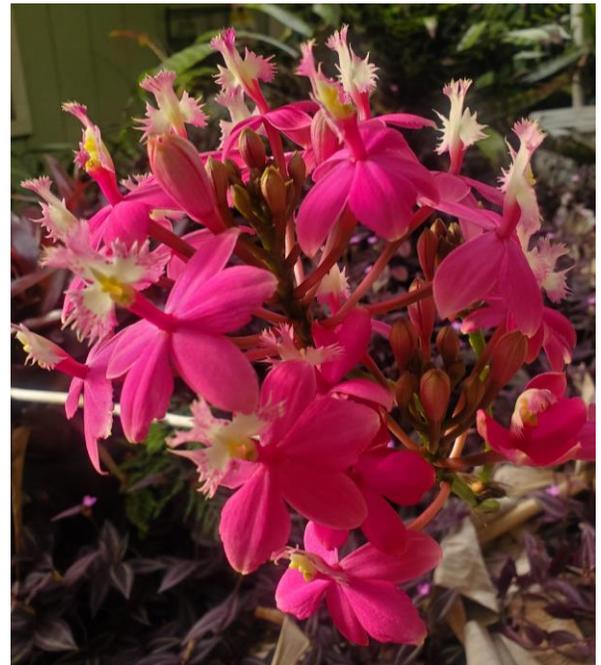
*Arrangus biloba*, Anita Kelliher



*Vanda Hybrid-George Poppas*, Stacy Johnson



*L.anceps veitchiana* 'Blue Sky' x 'Stevie Ray Vaughan' AM /AOS, Stuart Clements



*Epi.* (Pacific Punch 'Purple' x Pacific Dragon "Neon Purple") x Wedding Valey 'Sakura Komachi', Whitney Steele

# Member Plant Show and Tell



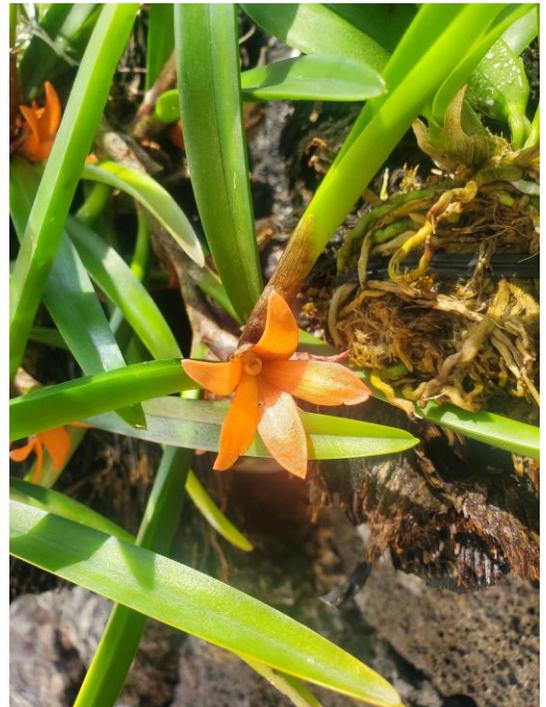
*Sch. Schutzei*, Stuart Clements



*Vanda Hybrid-George Poppas*, Stacy Johnson



*Dendrobium wenzelii*, Whitney Steele



*Ceratostylis rubes*, Keith Kaufman

# Meet Keith Kaufman

Hello everyone. My name is Keith Kaufman and I have been growing orchid plants for 50 years. I too am a member of the Kona Orchid Society and want to share my story.

I was raised in Detroit Michigan in the 60s and 70s when life was a bit different than you find it today. My first impressions of tropical plants and orchids were my early visits to local greenhouse nurseries and to places like the Belle Isle Conservatory built in 1904 and which is the oldest continually-running conservatory in the United States.

There were greenhouses at the school I was attending which also had a profound influence on me. It was at about this time when my parents started driving to Florida for summer vacations. Game changer! Palm trees, and tropical plants everywhere. There was no going back!

It was also at about this time that my father relinquished a corner of our basement to grow orchid plants under lights. I was 12 years old. These were the days prior to cloning, making hybrid orchids very sought after and very expensive. So exotic and so fascinating! I soon graduated from high school, and I was off to Michigan State University getting my degree in Botany. Soon after that I found myself relocating to Seattle Washington. It was 1980. Living in the northwest proved to be wonderful for me and for expanding my knowledge growing orchids. I have very fond memories of visiting places such as Baker and Chantry Orchid greenhouses as well as The Beal Orchid greenhouse owned and operated by Dan Harvey. Over the years I became very skilled at growing many genres and species of plants within the intermediate and cool-growing range.

In 1984 I accepted a job with King County Metro Transit as a gardener within their facilities department. That position, over the years brought me to be invited to join the team to support startup of Washington State's Link Light Rail train system which continues to grow and expand.

After 34 years working with the county government, I felt it was time to make some changes. So, I have officially retired! And with that, I met a wonderful man and moved to Maui. Don was also a 'Landscape Specialist' working for his clients as we lived in Kihei for years. It wasn't until a couple of years ago that we discovered the Big Island to which...as you may have guessed, we moved! This time right here in Kailua-Kona, which has been a dream come true.

I look forward to seeing if I will be successful in growing orchid plants here down by the beach. It turns out to be an entirely different growing situation from that of the Pacific Northwest. Heat-loving species seem to grow with reckless abandon while others just refuse to flower in the warm night air. Today I continue to indulge in this wonderful hobby, continue to learn about the fascinating details of certain orchid species which for me in focusing on the climate and origin of certain species may be all it takes to determine successes from failures.



Keith with his Cattleya hybrid

# MONTHLY CHECKLIST FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

By Ned Nash and James Rose

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/seasonal-orchid-care/january-february-checklist.aspx>

Photos by Whitney Steele

## Cattleya

Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

## Cymbidium

We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30 F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

## Odontoglossums

Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using *Oncidium* and *Brassia*, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.

## Phalaenopsis

Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of phalaenopsis at orchid shows and sales.



*Cymbidium Hybrid, Orchid People of Hawaii*