Next Meeting
Date: Sat., November 11, 2017
Time: 1:30-4:00
Place: Kamana Senior Center, 127 Kamana St., Hilo
Leader: Leslie Hayes-Cullins
Topic: Hands-on repotting session

Potting orchids is different from potting other plants, because they don’t grow in dirt. It’s not hard; it’s just different. It’s hard to describe in words, but it’s easy to learn by watching someone else do it, or even better, doing it yourself.

That’s what this month’s meeting is all about. Leslie Hayes-Cullins will lead a hands-on repotting session, where you get to learn how to repot an orchid by actually doing it.

Leslie is originally from the Bay area in California, but with Hawaiian roots – her mother was born in Hawi. Leslie and her husband moved to Hawi in 2003 where they own and operate a small plumbing business. Her love for orchids started very early with Cymbidiums, and it became a full-fledged obsession after moving to Hawaii, growing Dendrobiums, Vandas, Bulbophyllums, and more. Her current favorites are miniature species, the more unusual the better. Leslie is an AOS judge.

If you’d like to learn how to repot your orchids or brush up your repotting skills, and don’t mind getting your hands dirty, this meeting is for you! And as an extra bonus, you get to take home the orchids that you repot. So don’t miss it!

Last Chance to Sign Up for Holiday Party and Auction
There will be no regular meeting in December. Instead, we’re holding our annual Holiday Party and Auction on Sunday, Dec. 10 at Nani Mau Gardens in Hilo.

You must sign up and pay in advance. The price is $25 per person, which is less than the cost of the meal – the Society is subsidizing your ticket! If you’re interested, please sign up and pay at the November meeting, or send your check to:

Hilo Orchid Society
P.O. Box 4294
Hilo, HI 96720

Checks must be received by Monday, Nov. 27, so don’t delay!

Plan to arrive at 11:00 a.m. to view the gardens, enjoy beverages and talk story. Then we’ll have a delicious buffet lunch, followed by the main event, an auction of donated plants.

It’s a chance to get together with old friends, perhaps make new ones, and obtain some special plants at bargain prices and benefit your Society at the same time. Guests are welcome.

The buffet menu features:
• Slow roasted carved prime rib of beef
• Basil chicken
• Hula girl shrimp scampi
• Steamed rice & vegetables
• Garlic mashed potatoes
• Local style salads
• Coffee, iced tea, orange-pineapple punch
• Dessert

There will also be a cash bar serving wine and beer.

Nani Mau Gardens includes 22 acres of beautiful tropical flowers and plants, which as a holiday party guest you are welcome to enjoy at no extra cost. There is plenty of free parking. Directions to Nani Mau Gardens will be in the December newsletter.
Election of Officers and Trustees

The election of officers and trustees for 2018 will take place at the November meeting. Board members serve two-year terms, with half the members up for election each year. For the 2018-2019 term, our Nominating Committee has produced the following slate of officers and trustees:

**President**
Dana Culleney is our President-Elect and was the Orchid Show chairperson in 2016 and 2017. Dana grew up in Hawaii before it was a state. She lived all over the country before returning to Hawaii four years ago.

**Treasurer**
Larry Kuekes was President in 2014-2015 and is our newsletter editor and webmaster. He moved to Hawaii in 2010 and grows a small but diverse collection of mostly species orchids.

**Trustee**
Ken Armour was a past HOS Treasurer and a Trustee from 2016 to the present. He owns Malika Orchids, d.b.a. The OrchidWorks. Ken and his wife Rayna have been very active supporters of HOS.

**Trustee**
Nathan Sherwood is Sales and Tour Manager for Akatsuka Orchids. He caught the orchid bug as a teenager in Washington state, moved to Oahu four years ago and to the Big Island last year. Nathan is looking forward to becoming more involved with HOS.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Any additional nominees must be present at the meeting and willing to run against the slate endorsed by the Nominating Committee.

**Scholarship Winner**
Scholarship committee chair Shelly Nowaki (left) presented Joyce Lilly (right), 2017-2018 winner of our Yasuji Takasaki Memorial Scholarship, at the October meeting.

Joyce is a senior at UH Hilo, majoring in Agriculture with a focus on Tropical Plant Science and Agroecology, with a minor in Hawaiian Studies. She was raised with a passion for orchids, saying “I love their spunky colors and individual personalities.”
Photo Contest – You Pick the Winner

Response to our photo contest was overwhelming – over 500 photos were submitted. With so many great photos, how can we choose one winner to receive two tickets to our December holiday party? We’re asking you, our members, to choose the winning photo.

A panel of five judges has narrowed down the selection to the ten finalist photos below. Please pick your ONE favorite photo from these finalists. You can either:

• Vote at the November meeting, or
• If you won’t be at the meeting, vote by email. Send an email with the number of your favorite photo to info@hilorchidsociety.org. Mention “photo contest” in the email. Emails must be received by Nov. 10.

To see larger versions of these photos, go to the HOS Photo Contest gallery in the Galleries menu on our website www.hilorchidsociety.org. The first ten photos in the gallery are the finalists; click on the photos to see full-screen versions. The winner will be announced at the November meeting.
October Members Choice

Left: Hobbyist 1st place: *Phalaenopsis amboinensis*, grown by Glory Kirkland
Center: Hobbyist 2nd place: *Kegeliella atropilosa*, grown by Sherry Partlow
Right: Hobbyist 3rd place: *Phalaenopsis*, grown by Vivian Ueoka

October AOS Awards

Left: *Cattleya* Penny Kuroda ‘Orchid Eros’ HCC/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Right: *Cattleya tenuis* ‘Orchid Eros’ HCC/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Orchid Stories

Those @#$%^&* Latin Names

Part 4: Gender Bender

It happens all too often. You learn the Latin name of an orchid, and then some taxonomist changes the name. For example, the cockleshell orchid

\[ \text{Epidendrum cochleatum} \]

became \[ \text{Encyclia cochleata} \]
then became \[ \text{Prosthechea cochleata} \]

But this essay isn’t about those @#$%^&* taxonomists. It’s about Latin. In our example, the genus changed from Epidendrum to Encyclia to Prosthechea. But did you notice that the species epithet changed as well, from \[ \text{cochleatum} \] to \[ \text{cochleata} \]? Or at least the ending of it changed. What gives?

It turns out that even though botanical Latin is pretty much fake Latin, in some ways it obeys very strict Latin rules. The genus name always takes the form of a Latin noun. The species epithet is always a word describing the genus, which means it’s an adjective or a possessive word. For example:

- \[ \text{Laelia flava} \] means “yellow Laelia” (\[ \text{flava} \]) is an adjective).
- \[ \text{Epidendrum cochleatum} \] means “shell-like Epidendrum” (\[ \text{cochleatum} \]) is an adjective).
- \[ \text{Cattleya warscewiczii} \] means “Warscewicz’s Cattleya” (possessive).
- \[ \text{Dendrobium victoria-reginae} \] means “Queen Victoria’s Dendrobium” (possessive).

But more than that, the adjective or possessive word and the noun have to have proper Latin word endings that follow the rules of Latin grammar. Among other things, these word endings depend on gender and case. English is blissfully free of these complications, but in Latin, a noun can have one of three genders (masculine, feminine or neuter), and there are six cases (nominative, vocative, accusative, genitive, dative and ablative), which depend on how the word is used in the sentence (as subject, object, etc.).

So \[ \text{warscewiczii} \] ends in \[ \text{ii} \] because that’s the ending in Latin for the combination of genitive (possessive) case and masculine gender, and \[ \text{victoria-reginae} \] ends in \[ \text{ae} \] because that’s the ending for the combination of genitive case and feminine gender.

What about the cockleshell orchid? The gender of the word \[ \text{Epidendrum} \] is neuter. (Don’t ask me why. It just is.) So the adjective \[ \text{cochleatum} \] has to have the neuter ending \[ \text{um} \]. But then Dressler changed the genus to \[ \text{Encyclia} \], which is feminine. (Again, don’t ask. It just is.) So the adjective had to change to \[ \text{cochleata} \], with the feminine ending \[ \text{a} \].

So when the ending of the species changes like this, it’s because the orchid changed its gender. Transsexual orchids? Shocking!

Actually, only the taxonomists naming the species have to worry about this stuff. You can be like the butterfly on the \[ \text{Prosthechea cochleata} \] flower. It doesn’t care what the orchid is named. It just enjoys the flower for what it is.

Larry Kuekes

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CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

The following events are held at Kamana Senior Center, Hilo unless otherwise noted:

- **Nov. 11** 1:30 HOS Meeting 4:00 AOS Judging
- **Nov. 24** 6:00 pm AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo
- **Dec. 9** 4:00 AOS Judging
- **Dec. 10** 11:00 Holiday Party, Nani Mau Gardens Must sign up and pay in advance.
- **Dec. 22** 6:00 pm AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo
- **Jan. 13** 1:30 HOS Meeting 4:00 AOS Judging
- **Jan. 26** 6:00 pm AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo
- **Jan. 27** 9:00-12:00 Orchid workshop at Volcano Art Center

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A monarch butterfly on a \[ \text{Prosthechea cochleata} \] flower. Photo by Larry Kuekes.
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Visit us on the web at  
hilorchidsociety.org