

# Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

January 2018

## Next Meeting

Date: Sat., Jan. 13, 2018  
Time: **1:30-4:00**  
Place: Kamana Senior Center,  
127 Kamana St., Hilo  
Speaker: Tanya Lam  
Topic: Botanizing Orchids in  
Northeast Thailand

Have you ever dreamed of hunting for orchids in their native jungle habitat? That's exactly what Tanya Lam did in Sukhothai, a province in northern Thailand, and this month she will share her experience with us.

Sukhothai was the first capital of Siam over 700 years ago. Today most tourists come to see the ruins of the ancient capital, but the region is also orchid-rich, home to over 2000 orchid species, including *Aerides*, *Bulbophyllum*, *Coelogyne*, *Cymbidium*, *Dendrobium*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Phalaenopsis*, and more.



Tanya Lam lives in San Jose, California. She has been growing orchids since 1997. She has traveled to see orchids growing in their native habitats in Australia, the Bahamas, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Puerto Rico, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. Due to her extensive travels, she has developed her own orchid mixes to fit her watering schedule. Tanya likes showy orchids and ones that are long-lasting or frequent bloomers. She has given orchid talks to societies in the San Francisco Bay area and across the country.

If you'd like to explore the orchid-rich jungles of Thailand without having to leave Hilo, don't miss this meeting!

## Dues Are Due

Your membership dues for 2018 are due. New members who joined at last year's orchid show or in September or later are considered paid through 2018. Dues are still only \$20 for individual membership or \$25 for family membership. In return, you get a year of interesting speakers, newsletters, and activities, plus the chance to get together with folks who share your interest in these beautiful and fascinating plants.

Please fill out the form on page 7 and mail it in with your payment (address is on the form), or you can pay at the meeting. Thanks!



## Orchid Show Art Contest

The Hilo Orchid Society is looking for artwork for the 2018 Hilo Orchid Show "Kaleidoscope of Orchids", to represent the beauty and grace of orchids grown and enjoyed on The Orchid Isle. This is an opportunity for original artwork to be exposed to visitors through the website, social media, marketing and advertising efforts, and the attendees of the three-day show. Artists must reside on the island of Hawai'i. The winner will receive \$100 cash prize and the option to sell their art at the show. All accepted artists will receive an opportunity to display and sell their accepted entry(s) at the show.

Prior to entry the artist must email [julia.hiloorchidshow@gmail.com](mailto:julia.hiloorchidshow@gmail.com) or call Julia at 541-915-7291 to receive a copy of the official rules and regulations and a release form. Deadline to enter is February 15, 2018. All inquiries may be sent to the email listed above.

## New Officers and Trustees



The new Board of Trustees for 2018 was sworn in at the holiday party. From left: Ben Oliveros, Cindy Caldicott, Nathan Sherwood, Rick Kelley, Lillian Paiva, Dana Culleney, Larry Kuekes, Joe Bush, Dorothy Imagire. Not pictured: Ken Armour.

## Holiday Party

Our holiday party was a good time for all who attended. After talking story on a lanai surrounded by scenic Nani Mau Gardens, we had a delicious buffet lunch and our official swearing in of officers and trustees for 2018. Then we had our annual fund raising auction of gorgeous donated orchids.

Mahalo to all those who helped out: Vivian Ueoka checked in attendees, Patty Goodwin made the table centerpieces, Ben Oliveros organized orchid donations, Glen Barfield was our skilled auctioneer, Bill Rawson and Larry Kuekes recorded bids, and Cindy Caldicott organized the whole thing.

Special thanks to the commercial nurseries who donated an eye-popping collection of plants for the auction: Orchid Eros, Island Sun Orchids, Winning Orchids, Shogun Hawaii, Jungle Mist Orchids, Kalapana Nursery, Hilo Orchid Farm, Orchid Plantation, Okika, Orchids Paradise, and Hawaii Hybrids. We are so lucky to be on the Orchid Isle and have their generous support.

## Volcano Art Center Workshop

Donna Barr and Shelby Smith are conducting a workshop at Volcano Art Center on Jan. 27 from 9:00 to noon on how to design and build a mini orchid display. Registration is \$25. For more info or to register, contact Volcano Art Center at 808-967-8222 or go to [volcanoartcenter.org](http://volcanoartcenter.org).

## CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

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

Jan. 12-14		Paph Guild Meeting & Show, Grand Nanioloa Hotel, 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
Feb. 10	1:30	HOS Meeting
	4:00	AOS Judging
Feb. 23	6:00 pm	AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo

## December AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Left: *Paph.* Felton 'Amber' HCC/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Paph.* Joan Viggiani 'Glossy Green' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Paph.* (Coral Sea x Bloody Rain) 'Hot Spot' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Paph.* Hilo Moon 'Grace' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Paph.* Lippewunder 'John' HCC/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Paph.* Martian Emperor 'The Expanse' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Paph.* Tuscan 'Crème Brulee' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm  
Right: *Paph.* Yellow Leopard 'Bold Spots' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Paph.* Hawaiian Kapuna 'Slipper Zone Masterful' HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids  
Right: *Paph.* Jaeger 'Jackpot' HCC/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Paph.* Petula's Dandy 'Slipper Zone Dito' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids  
Right: *Paph.* Yellow Leopard 'Holy Moley' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

## President's Annual Report to Members

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the HOS Board and all the members who have helped to make 2017 such a wonderful year for the orchid hobby in Hawaii. Our core mission is to promote orchids through education and conservation. Looking back at the past year we can all be proud of the job we have done.

Our educational mission has several parallel efforts. First, we want to make sure our members and visitors learn how to be better growers through our monthly speakers. Past president Larry Keukes explained how the seemingly complex orchid names provide lots of information on the ancestry of the plant and thus the growing conditions it needs. Vice president Ben Oliveros shared his secrets of successfully growing tens of thousands of cattleyas at his commercial operation. Leslie Hayes-Cullins organized a very popular hands-on potting session where everyone went home with free orchids. Former president Julie Goettsch explained the history behind Hawaii becoming 'The Orchid Isle'.

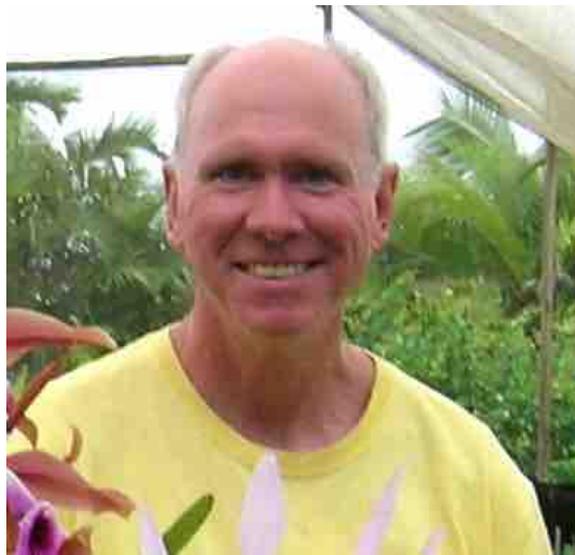
Because of our successful fundraising efforts, HOS was also able to fly in speakers from the mainland to share their expertise. Dave Sorokowski told us about breeding multifloral paphs. Paul Storm came all the way from Florida to spread the word that everyone here should be growing Schomberkias and their amazing hybrids regardless of what species names taxonomists are using this week. Peter Lin returned to share his recent advances in breeding mini Cattleyas that are perfect for those with limited growing space.

Peter Tobias traveled to Hawaii to tell us about the vital work of Orchid Conversation Alliance. HOS has financially supported their work for years as part of our commitment to conserving the wild habitats for orchids around the world. And finally Brian Monk gave us a lesson in orchid portraiture in April.

Those tips on great orchid photography came in handy as our members submitted over 500 photos for our new contest. A panel of judges had the difficult task of selecting the top ten finalists who then went to a vote by the entire membership. Congratulations go out to Lou Rhoades for his winning photo in a very competitive field. A second contest rewarded members who brought the most blooming plants to the monthly meetings. Shelby Smith took home that prize. Both Lou and Shelby received pairs of tickets to the Holiday Luncheon and Auction.

A second way we promote orchid education is to fund students studying horticulture at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. This year we were delighted to award scholarships to Jed Akao, Edward Bufil and Joyce Lilly. The funds for these generous scholarships come from the silent auction at our annual show.

Speaking of the show, our annual event was organized by Dana Culleney for the second year. This is the most visible outreach to the local community to spread the message about orchids. This year's theme of "Jewels of the Jungle" inspired creative displays by our commercial growers and hobbyists alike. Shelby Smith took home the trophy for Best Display in Show again this year for his stylized Victorian greenhouse overflowing with members' spectacular plants. Many thanks for all the members who loaned plants or helped construct the display. Besides the wonderful displays and vendor sales booths, the show also featured many lectures and demonstrations to help people new to the hobby keep their new babies healthy and blooming for years to come. Thanks to Ruth Robison, the show enjoyed extensive coverage in the *Tribune-Harold*. The show committee did a great job staging a first class event that pulled in big crowds and was a financial success. The great financial results were largely due to a handful of super volunteers. Julie Goettsch was a fundraiser extraordinaire in her role as Sponsorship Chair. Over the past two shows, Julie has raised a jaw-dropping \$25,000 from local



businesses and individuals. New board member Dorothy Imagire stepped in at the last minute to save the silent auction that raised lots of money for the scholarship program and other educational efforts. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's show such a success.

One of the best things about the show is the dozens of new members who join after seeing all the spectacular orchids. Many of these folks are totally new to orchids, so the best place to start learning is by seeing how more experienced people grow. Our Newcomers group is for people who have joined in the last two years. We want to thank Ben Oliveros and Lillian Paiva for opening up their gardens to the Newcomers and sharing their tips on successful growing. We encourage all new members to join us on these tours and hope more experienced members volunteer to host a tour. Special thanks go out to George and Gail Crosthwaite for organizing these tours for the past three years.

The top perk members most appreciate is the access to the best orchids in the world. Members pick up new plants each month at members' silent auction and the opportunity drawings. The show is another place to go crazy buying new plants. People still want more orchids at our picnic the month after the show, and of course everyone loves the great blooming orchids auctioned at our holiday banquet. We have our very generous local commercial nurseries to thank for donating plants year after year to support HOS. Perhaps no event exemplifies the feeding frenzy of orchid hobbyists quite like the annual nursery bus tour. Thanks to long time HOS member Jerome Siebenrock for returning to lead these tours again.

What beats great orchids at wholesale prices? Free orchids! From time to time people in the community reach out to HOS to find new homes for orchid collections of family members who can no longer care for them. Many of these plants go to the zoo or perhaps some public garden for the Orchid Isle Project. Sometimes we distribute the plants to members who will care for these plants for years to come. Our thanks go out to everyone on the island who donated plants to HOS this year.

The only way an organization like HOS can remain this active is with the hard work of all its members. In addition to those mentioned earlier, I'd like to recognize these members who contribute their time to the society. A big Mahalo goes out to Bill

Rawson for his many years serving as treasurer, the most labor-intensive job in the society. Larry Kuekes is our incoming treasurer and previously served as president in 2014 & 2015. He also does triple duty as our long time webmaster, newsletter editor, and sound system guru. In his spare time he also makes the HOS calendar each year. Ben Oliveros has been booking our monthly speakers for many years and volunteered for another two year term as vice president. Although Shelby Smith is stepping down from four years on the board, he will continue as the designer of the HOS display at the show, a very demanding job. Thanks also go out to Victoria Azuolas who keeps track of our membership, Vivian Ueoka for opportunity plant tickets, Shelly Nowaki who heads up the scholarship selection committee, Thane Pratt for running the members' monthly silent auction, and Cindy Caldicott for organizing the holiday banquet as well as handling t-shirt sales for the show. We also owe a big Thank You to George and Gail Crosthwaite and their helpers for the monthly refreshments and Glory Garner for photographing the plant table winners every month.

Eric Guttormsen has headed up the zoo project for many years and has built up a great team of helpers to keep the zoo a special place for residents and visitors to enjoy orchids growing wild in trees. Likewise, a big Mahalo goes out to Julie Geottsches for her many years of service above and beyond. In addition to her three years as president and her outstanding success raising funds for the show, Julie has spent the past four years leading The Orchid Isle Project to place orchids in trees in public places around the island.

Special thanks go out to Julia Hoskins and Karl Mendonca who have taken on the huge job of organizing the 2018 show in July. As plans proceed, I hope each of you will step up to help when the call goes out for volunteers for all the tasks needed to make the show a success. Finally, it is a pleasure to hand over the president's responsibilities to Dana Culleney. Dana has already served as chair for the past two highly successful shows, so she is plugged into the East Side orchid community. Please lend a hand whenever Dana asks for help with various jobs. And finally I would like to thank all the members of HOS for helping to make the past two years a great experience for me as president.

Rick Kelley

## HILO ORCHID SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Please print this form, fill it out, and mail with your dues payment to:

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

Dues are \$20 for individual membership, \$25 for family membership.

Please print clearly:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email for receiving newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

- Individual membership (\$20)  
 Family membership (\$25)

Check one:

- I grant permission to publish this information in the Hilo Orchid Society Directory.  
 I do not grant permission to publish this information in the Hilo Orchid Society Directory.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional:

Are you interested in volunteering to help with any of the following activities? Check as many as you like.

- Monthly meetings  
 Annual Orchid Show  
 Orchid Isle Project (mounting orchids on trees in public spaces)  
 Orchids at the Zoo  
 Serving as an officer

## Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

President – Dana Culleney 430-6653

[tutu.keakakona@gmail.com](mailto:tutu.keakakona@gmail.com)

Vice President – Ben Oliveros 345-1371

[oliveros@orchideros.com](mailto:oliveros@orchideros.com)

Treasurer – Larry Kuekes 860-380-7964

[lkuekes@me.com](mailto:lkuekes@me.com)

Recording Secretary – Dorothy Imagire 785-8585

[dorothy@imagire.org](mailto:dorothy@imagire.org)

Corresponding Secretary – Cindy Caldicott

808-498-4692

Past President – Rick Kelley 756-8145

[rickkelley@att.net](mailto:rickkelley@att.net)

Trustee 2017-2018 – Lillian Paiva

Trustee 2017-2018 – Joe Bush [hilojoe@twc.com](mailto:hilojoe@twc.com)

Trustee 2018-2019 – Ken Armour 808-963-6233

Trustee 2018-2019 – Nathan Sherwood

Hilo Orchid Society

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