

Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2018

Next Meeting

Note Change of Date

Date: Sat., May 5, 2018

Time: 1:30-4:00

Place: Kamana Senior Center,
127 Kamana St., Hilo
Lanai (Picnic table area)

Topic: Potluck Picnic and Auction

This month we're having our annual potluck picnic and auction of donated orchids, and you're all invited! We're meeting in our usual place, but on the lanai or picnic table area, and **we're meeting a week early**.

There's no official program, but we will try to have some activities and demos related to the show (like making mini displays) for those interested.

But mainly, we'll just be eating, talking story, having fun, and picking up silent auction bargains. Feel free to bring your kids, family, and friends.

Everyone is asked to bring a favorite pupu or potluck dish to share. We'll have soda and water to drink, but you are also welcome to bring wine or beer.

Since it's not a regular meeting, please don't bring any orchids for the show table.

But **please bring orchids for the auction!** This year our picnic is before the show, so we won't have donations from show vendors like last year. Instead, we're counting on you, our members, to donate orchids for the auction (see article at right).

So bring your wallet or checkbook, bring your potluck dish, bring your extra orchids for the auction, and we'll see you there!

Kona Orchid Show and Sale

The Kona Orchid Society's annual sale will be held Fri. May 11 from 9 am to 6 pm and Sat. May 12 from 8 am to 4 pm at the Old Airport Events Pavilion at the north end of Kuakini Highway in Kona. For more information, see www.konaorchidsociety.org.

Bring Orchids for the Auction

Is your orchid growing space crowded with too many plants (and whose isn't)? Free up some space to get some new orchids and help out your Society at the same time by donating a plant or two to our silent auction on May 5.

Maybe you have an extra division, or a plant that's beautiful, but you have more than enough plants of that kind and you want to try a different kind. So donate it and give someone else a chance to enjoy it.

Plants *don't have to be in bloom*, just healthy and pest-free (no scale or little fire ants!)

If you have a photo of the flowers, that's great, but if not, the plant name and a description would be good. We can provide blank plant labels.

It's not too late to make divisions of your plants for the auction. You don't even have to repot the divisions, because they wouldn't take root in the next week anyway. Bare-root divisions are fine; in fact, they're ideal for mounting on trees.

Even if you can only donate one orchid, please do. If everyone brings one or two, the auction will be fantastic!

Lei Day

HOS will participate in the Lei Day festival being held at Kalakaua Park in Hilo on Tuesday, May 1. We will have a display of orchids and a booth where HOS volunteers will tell passers-by about our Society and our upcoming orchid show. If you're in town on May 1, check it out!

New Corresponding Secretary

We want to thank Cindy Caldicott, who recently resigned as Corresponding Secretary, for her outstanding service to our Society.

The Board of Trustees has appointed Lise Dowd to fill the position. Welcome, Lise! We know you will be a great addition to the Board.

April Members Choice

Photos by Larry Kuekes



Left: Hobbyist 1st place: *Coelogyne lawrenciana*, grown by Thane Pratt
Right: Hobbyist 2nd place: *Phalaenopsis bastiana*, grown by Janice Williams



Left: Hobbyist 3rd place: *Paphiopedilum Hilo Macabre*, grown by Glen Barfield
Right: Commercial 1st place: no name Cattleya hybrid, grown by Karen Kimmerle

April AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Left: *Cattleya schilleriana* 'Gabriel Amaru' AMAOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Right: *Cattleya violacea* "Sebastian Ferrell" AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros

April AOS Awards (continued)

Photos by Glen Barfield



Left: *Laelia anceps* 'Mirtha Isabel' FCC/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros

Center: *Paph. rothschildianum* 'Night Hawk' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Paph. Hsinying Anita* 'Slipper Zone Tall and Dark' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids



Left: *Paph. Shin-Yi Surprise* 'Hawaiian Peloric' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

Center: *Paph. randsii* 'SY#1' HCC/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Paph. philippinense* fma. *albo-flavum* 'Slipper Zone Sterling' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids

What Do The Awards Mean?

AOS flower quality awards are given to orchid species or hybrids based on a 100-point scale.

- **HCC** (Highly Commended Certificate) – for an orchid scoring 75 to 79 points.
- **AM** (Award of Merit) – for an orchid scoring 80 to 89 points.
- **FCC** (First Class Certificate) – for an orchid scoring 90 points or more.
- **AQ** (Award of Quality) – awarded to a cross exhibited as a group of at least 12 different clones.

AOS cultural awards are given to the grower, not the plant, for growing a well-flowered specimen plant.

- **CCM** (Certificate of Cultural Merit) – for a specimen plant scoring 80 to 89 points.
- **CCE** (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) – for a specimen plant scoring 90 points or above.

Hilo Orchid Society 66th Annual Show and Sale

Kaleidoscope of Orchids is coming! The Hilo Orchid Society produces the largest orchid show in the state of Hawai'i. As in years past it will continue to be held at Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium. AOS and ribbon judging activities, as well as the Preview Party, will kick off the event on Thursday, July 12th. The show will be open to the public on Friday, July 13th, 9 am–6 pm, Saturday, July 14th, 9 am–5 pm, and Sunday, July 15th, 10 am – 2 pm featuring dazzling displays of orchids and vendor booths.

July is not far away and show preparations are already in full swing. Julia Hoskins and Karl Mendonca are working very hard as our Show Chairs and they have an experienced group of folks including Rick Kelley, Mary Beth Cohen, Dana Culleney, Joe Bush, Julie Goettsch, Josh Black, Janice Harris, Janet Montrose, Shelby Smith, Leslie Hayes-Cullens, Larry Kuekes, Glenn Brown, Patty Goodwin, Karen Kimmerle, Claire Mangano, John Juszczak and Pauline Brault on the Show committee helping to make the show a reality. **Get involved and be a part of the Hilo Orchid Society's signature event!**

Here are the **ABC's** of production of the Hilo Orchid Show:

Judging. On Thursday, July 12, before the show is open to the public, events begin with **AOS** and ribbon judging. Karen Kimmerle will coordinate the AOS judging and trophies. John Juszczak will be in charge of ribbon judging by HOS members. Teams of HOS volunteers lead by an experienced AOS judge or Society member award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place ribbons for dozens of categories as well as **Best** in Show trophies. This is a fun way for HOS members to learn more about orchids and the traits that make them outstanding.

Preview Party. Thursday night, 6 - 9 pm, the Preview Party gala will be held at the show site. Tickets are \$75. Make checks payable to Ku'ikahi Mediation **Center**. Tickets will be available at the May 5th meeting of the Hilo Orchid Society. See page 6 for more information about the Preview Party.

HOS Display. Shelby Smith has kindly agreed to design the Hilo Orchid Society display again this year, and he needs our assistance to make it a success. The design will focus on your wonderful orchids,

featuring them as the *Kaleidoscope of Orchids*. This year's display will pay homage to the variety, succession of changing phases, endless variety of patterns, and shades of colors in orchids.

- If you have any disease-free and fire ant-free orchids in bloom at show time, please lend them to our display. You will get them back, of course. We've been noticing that members' orchids located in the HOS display are winning ribbons and other trophies. It's a great way to showcase your orchid and be recognized during the show. Let us know if you need help to understand how to prepare your orchid for show to be most beautiful. Let's all help create another award-winning exhibit for the Hilo Orchid Society!
- There are two display-build days in June: Saturday June 23rd and Saturday June 30th, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm at Shelby's house to construct the parts for the display, all kinds of help is needed. Shelby will also need help assembling/installing the display the week of the show. You can sign up by emailing Shelby at skelatenphish@yahoo.com.

Entertainment. There will be live entertainment by talented local performers and cultural practitioners.

Orchid Doctor. We will have **Fun** once again with Julie **Goettsch** as the Orchid Doctor at a stand, modeled after Lucy's "Psychiatric Help 5¢" stand in the *Peanuts* cartoon, where attendees can get their orchids examined and questions answered.

HOS Membership Table. Our table will be staffed by members to answer questions and enroll visitors into the Hilo Orchid Society.

Security. We will have certified security at the show on a continual basis during the show. This year's show will include Orchid Ambassadors to assist with monitoring the exhibits and assisting participants with information and Aloha. **If** you are interested in volunteering to be an Orchid Ambassador please contact Glenn Brown at keaauglenn@gmail.com.

Refreshments. There will be a variety of delicious and reasonably priced dishes, shave ice

from natural **J**uice, coffee drinks, and more from local sources for sale at the show.

Keiki Korner. Children and young adults have **Loved** our activities in the past and we are expanding to include keiki and youth displays, games, photo booth, and other fun activities. We have commitments from several youth organizations to participate and we are looking for a few volunteers to assist in the Keiki Korner. As they say, it takes a village and you are our community.

More and New Orchid Vendors. We're excited to announce that more orchid vendors will participate this year and that means more beautiful orchids and with additional selections to purchase.

Putting on the Show. The show has a myriad of tasks, as you can tell from the descriptions of activities above. In addition, volunteers are needed for setup, take down, front gate, and roving. Our show can only succeed because Society members have been generous enough to volunteer to help. It can be as little as a couple of hours of your time, and you will feel good that our show was a smashing success because of you.

Silent Auction. There will be a silent auction where show attendees can bid on **Quality** donated items. Donations are still being sought and accepted would like to contribute. This auction will **Raise** money for our scholarship fund, orchid education and conservation. We are looking for volunteers to watch the silent auction items in shifts of a couple of hours each day and help with checkout.

Sponsorships. Gold, Silver, Bronze and Trophy Sponsorships are what makes our show possible. If

you'd like to be a sponsor or advertise in the show program, contact Josh Black at 808-333-2432 or email him at orchidislefiberarts@gmail.com

Speakers. Demonstrations and speakers have been arranged for an excellent series be presented by most knowledgeable HOS members and community organizations throughout the three days of the show. Topics will cover various types of orchids and how to grow them, and natural farming methods which can help both hobbyists and growers adapt to methods that are environmentally friendly, cost effective, and sustainable.

Tickets. Pre-sale tickets are available at a discount from HOS members, Garden Exchange, Paradise Plants, Hilo Coffee Mill, and Akatsuka Gardens. Adults Presale: \$3.00, Adults at Gate: \$5.00, Three-Day Pass: \$8.00, Youth 18 & **Under** free admission.

T-Shirts and more. **Variety** is offered in our shirts with colors, sizes, and styles for everyone. Shirts and Tea towels with the show design will be available at the May and June HOS meetings and again at the show. **Will** you help by bringing cash or check to

make your purchase, support our fabulous organization, and advertise the show? Our Orchid Isle 2019 calendars will also be for sale at the show for the bargain price of \$5.

This year's eXcellent graphic was designed by Al **Yano**, born and raised in Honoka'a on the island of Hawai'i. He is an iPhotographer with **Zest** and passion for floral art. Al will be at the Show displaying and offering his art for sale. Please stop by his booth and say hello.

Julia Hoskins



Gala Preview Party is July 12



The 2018 benefit Preview Party kicks off HOS's 66th Orchid Show and Sale at the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium. Held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 12, the gala event features refreshments, live music, and orchid viewing and pre-sales.

Each party-goer receives an etched wine or beer glass, in order to enjoy the libations and take home after the event. A wide variety of fine wines, beer on tap from Kona Brewing Co., gourmet juices, and coffee from Hilo Coffee Mill are served. Pupu, dinner, and dessert buffets feature tasty treats by Island Naturals Market & Deli and AJ & Sons Catering. Plus, party-goers will have the first chance to purchase exciting new hybrids and exotic orchid species, as well as other unusual plants and orchid-related products.

Proceeds of the Preview Party benefit the Ku'ikahi Mediation Center. The non-profit community mediation center empowers people to come together—to talk and to listen, to explore options, and to find their own best solutions. To achieve this mission, Ku'ikahi offers mediation, facilitation, and training to strengthen the ability of diverse individuals and groups to resolve interpersonal conflicts and community issues.

Tickets are \$75, of which \$25 is tax deductible, and can be purchased at: Hilo Coffee Mill (17-995 Volcano Hwy.), Day-Lum Rentals (2 Kamehameha Ave.), The Most Irresistible Shop (256 Kamehameha Ave.), and Ku'ikahi Mediation Center (The Hilo Lagoon Centre, 101 Aupuni St, Suite PH 1014 B-2). Or contact Erika at 935-7844 ext 1 or erika@hawaiimediation.org.

Mini Display Workshop

By popular demand, Donna Barr and Shelby Smith are holding another orchid workshop on how to create a mini orchid display. It will be held on Sat., May 26 2018 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Kamana Senior Center, room AB. Participants will learn how to create a beautiful orchid mini display by creating one themselves using a few orchids plus other natural materials. Orchids and materials will be provided. Cost is \$25. You can sign up at the HOS meeting.



Participants at the last workshop show off their mini display in progress. Photo by Dana Culleney.

CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

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

May 1		Lei Day, Kalakaua Park, Hilo
May 5	1:30	HOS Picnic & Auction
May 11	9:00-6:00	Kona Orchid Show & Sale, Old Airport Pavilion, Kona
May 12	8:00-4:00	
May 12	4:00	AOS Judging
May 25	6:00 pm	AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo
May 26	1:00	Mini Display Workshop
June 9	1:30	HOS Meeting
June 9	4:00	AOS Judging
June 22	6:00 pm	AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo
June 23	9:00-2:00	Build HOS display, Shelby Smith's house
June 30	9:00-2:00	

The following show events will be held at the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium, Hilo

July 10	9:00-12:00	Bring plants for HOS display
July 12	morning	AOS Judging
July 12	afternoon	Ribbon Judging
July 12	6:00-9:00	Preview Party
July 13	9:00-6:00	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale
July 14	9:00-5:00	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale
July 15	10:00-2:00	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale

Orchid Stories

Eros & Psyche

The story of Eros and Psyche is one of the classic Greek myths. Psyche (Greek for “soul” or “spirit”) was a princess so beautiful that the people began neglecting to worship Aphrodite, goddess of beauty. This infuriated Aphrodite, so she commanded her son Eros, god of love, to punish Psyche.

Meanwhile, an oracle prophesied that Psyche’s husband would be no human. Everyone interpreted this to mean a monster, and she was left exposed on a rocky crag for the monster to carry her off.

However, Eros fell in love with the maiden. She was carried by the wind to a beautiful palace. Eros came to her every night and they made love in the dark, but he told her that she must never see his face, and by dawn he was always gone.

Later, her two jealous sisters visited her and, hearing her story, declared that her lover must be a monster because he wouldn’t let her see him. One night, after Eros fell asleep, Psyche armed herself with a dagger and lit an oil lamp to look upon her lover. She saw he was no monster, but the most handsome of men. But she accidentally let a drop of hot oil fall on Eros, waking him up. Saddened by her lack of trust, he flew away.

To get him back, she had to perform a series of seemingly impossible tasks set by Aphrodite, who was still peeved at her. For example, she had to unmix a huge heap of tiny mixed seeds, sorting them out in a single night. But the ants came to her aid and separated the seeds. After two more such tasks, Eros appealed to Zeus, who decided enough was enough. He made Psyche a goddess and she and Eros lived happily ever after.

Now, what does any of this have to do with orchids? Quite a bit, as it turns out. First, the genus *Psychopsis* is named after Psyche. In art, Eros (the same as the Roman god Cupid) was represented with wings in ancient Roman mosaics. So was Psyche, but she had butterfly wings, so she became associated with the butterfly.

Psychopsis orchids look like butterflies, at least to human eyes. The name *Psychopsis* comes from *Psyche* + *opsis* (resembling), i.e. “resembling a butterfly”. The species epithet *papilio* is Latin for butterfly. So the species name *Psychopsis papilio* has a double dose of butterfly in it.

What about Eros? Well, we have Eros right here on the Big Island as the orchid nursery Orchid Eros, owned by Ben Oliveros. Of course, “eros” is part of Ben’s name, but in addition, Eros was the god of love, desire, passion – so Orchid Eros connotes “orchid lover” or “passionate about orchids”, which couldn’t be more appropriate.

Psychopsis papilio and its hybrids are wonderful orchids to grow. When the species was first brought to England in 1823, it created a sensation. The flowers are large, over 6 inches high. It blooms sequentially, one flower at a time, and the flower spike keeps making buds. Never cut off the spike, because it

will keep blooming almost indefinitely year-round.

It’s hard to find the species *Psychopsis papilio* for sale, but a hybrid of it called *Psychopsis* Mendenhall ‘Hildos’ FCC/AOS is commonly available. The hybrid looks almost identical to the species, which is not surprising because its ancestry is $\frac{3}{4}$ *Psychopsis papilio* and $\frac{1}{4}$ another related species. It likes warm conditions and does well here in Hawaii.



Psychopsis papilio. Photo by Larry Kuekes.

Larry Kuekes

Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

President – Dana Culleney 430-6653

tutu.keakakona@gmail.com

Vice President – Ben Oliveros 345-1371

oliveros@orchideros.com

Treasurer – Larry Kuekes 860-380-7964

lkuekes@me.com

Recording Secretary – Dorothy Imagire 785-8585

dorothy@imagire.org

Corresponding Secretary – Cindy Caldicott

808-498-4692

Past President – Rick Kelley 756-8145

rickkelley@att.net

Trustee 2017-2018 – Lillian Paiva

Trustee 2017-2018 – Joe Bush hilojoe@twc.com

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

Trustee 2018-2019 – Nathan Sherwood 808-365-5824

nathan@akatsukaorchid.com

Hilo Orchid Society

P.O Box 4294

Hilo, HI 96720



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hiloorchidsociety.org