There is no July meeting due to our annual show

Key Show Dates & Times:
- **Tues. July 10** 10 am to 2 pm – Bring your blooming orchids to lend to the Hilo Orchid Society’s display.
- **Thurs. July 12** Morning – AOS Judging
  Afternoon – Ribbon Judging.
- **Fri. July 13** 9 am to 6 pm – Show is open
- **Sat. July 14** 9 am to 5 pm – Show is open
- **Sun. July 15** 10 am to 2 pm – Show is open
  2 pm – Show takedown. Pick up orchids if you lent them to the Society display.

All show events are at the Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium, Hilo.

Please Lend Us Your Orchids
We want your orchids for the HOS exhibit! Don’t think that somebody else will provide them. The big growers can’t lend us orchids because they have their own displays. So we’re counting on the little growers. If everyone can lend us one or two nice orchids, our display will be gorgeous. If nobody does, it will be bare and ugly.

If you have some nice orchids in bloom at the time of the show, and they’re pest-free, please lend them to our display. Even one or two beautiful orchids make a difference, and if enough people bring them, the result will be spectacular!

Bring your orchids to the Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium on **Tues., July 10 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.** Plan on picking them up promptly at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 15 when the show closes. Mahalo!

How to Prepare Your Orchids For the Show
- Estimate what’s likely to be in bloom for the show.
- Continue watering and feeding to encourage best blooming. Now is not the time to let a drought ruin your flowers.
- Consider staking the flowers for best viewing if they aren’t naturally held upright. Staking needs to be done *before* the flowers open. After they open, staking them will put them into unnatural-looking positions.
- We can only use healthy plants, so they must have no scale or other insects and especially *no little fire ants* (see article below).
- Prepare a list of the orchids you’re lending us and give us the list along with the plants. This helps us keep track of them and makes sure you get back the plants you lent us.

Mahalo!

How to Test for Little Fire Ants
We want your blooming orchids for the show, but not if they have little fire ants, which could spread to someone else’s orchids.

If you have little fire ants on your property, they could be hiding in your orchid pots, even if you don’t see them. We will be testing all plants that members bring in with the “peanut butter” test, but if you have any doubt, please test your plants before you bring them in. Here’s how.

Take a thin piece of wood (like half a chopstick or a coffee stirrer) or a strip of cardboard a few inches long, smear a thin layer of peanut butter on one end, and stick it in the pot. Wait an hour. If little fire ants are present, they will be all over the peanut butter.
June Members Choice

Photos by James Keach

Left: Hobbyist 1st place: *Rhynchostylis retusa*, grown by Janice Williams
Right: Hobbyist 2nd place: *Grammatophyllum stapeliiflorum*, grown by Glen Barfield

Left: Hobbyist 3rd place: *Laelia purpurata* var. *werkhauseri*, grown by Dana Culleney
Right: Commercial 1st place: *Miltoniopsis* Hurricane Ridge ‘Tow’, grown by Malika Orchids

Left: Commercial 2nd place: *Dendrobium singkawangense*, grown by Malika Orchids
Right: Commercial 3rd place: *Laelia purpurata* var. *striata*, grown by Malika Orchids
June AOS Awards

Left: *Cattleya* Brazilian Midway ‘Too Good Too’ AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Right: *Cattleya purpurata* f. *carnea* ‘Isabel Rosalia’ HCC/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros

Left: *Cattleya leopoldii* f. *alba* ‘Too Good’ AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Center: *Cattleya tigrina* ‘Gabriel Amaru’ AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Right: *Paph.* Wonderful Shadow ‘Slipper Zone Green Dynamite’ AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids

Left: *Paph.* Oriental Green ‘Slipper Zone Smallest’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Center: *Paph.* Spring Charm ‘Slipper Zone Duo’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Right: *Paph.* Spring Egret ‘Slipper Zone Hirsute Free’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Scholarship Winners

Our 2018-2019 scholarship winners were presented to the members at the June meeting. Here they are with Scholarship Committee members. From left: Sonia Juvik, Shelly Nowaki, Aaron Shipman, Daniel Dunnom, Barbara Heintz.

Nurseries Lost to Lava
Many of you have asked which orchid nurseries have been destroyed by the lava flow. Karen Kimmerle, who had to evacuate her own nursery in Kapoho, provided this list of mostly cut flower nurseries: Asia Pacific Flowers, Orchid Plantation, Orchids Paradise, Hawaiian Tropicals Direct, Don Reeves who grows cut flowers for Hawaiian Acres of Orchids, Far East Orchids, Moani Orchids and Gary Cruden. Kaumana Flowers had just purchased the Puna Orchids greenhouse. Kamali Nursery lost their crop to gas/vog, as well as potted orchid nursery Ho’okupu Orchids. Our hearts go out to all these growers.

2018 Orchid Isle Award
The 2018 Orchid Isle award will be awarded at the orchid show to James Fang of Hilo Orchid Farm. For over 10 years he has supplied orchids to grace the tables of the Imiloa Sky Garden Restaurant, where thousands of people have seen them. This is not to mention all he has done over the years for the Hilo Orchid Society. Congratulations, James.

Thank You, Auction Donors
Our May picnic and orchid auction was a huge financial success. We made over $1700, nearly twice as much as last year. Many thanks to Matthias Seelis, Ben Oliveros, Hawaii Hybrids and Malika Orchids, as well as all the other members who donated orchids for this great event.

CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS
The following show events will be held at the Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium, Hilo

- July 10 10:00-2:00 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

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

- Aug. 11 1:30 HOS Meeting
- Aug. 11 4:00 AOS Judging
- Aug. 12 8:00-2:00 Daifukuji Orchid Club Show and Sale at Daifukuji Soto Mission in Kaelakekua.
- Aug. 24 6:00 pm AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St. Hilo
Orchid Stories

Orchid Feet

Q: Where does a person with one foot work?
A: IHOP

Did you know that orchids have feet? All orchids can be divided into two groups:

- **Monopodial** orchids, from Greek *mono* (only) and *podi* (foot), have only one foot.
- **Sympodial** orchids, from Greek *sym* (together) and *podi* (foot), have many feet.

Of course, orchids don’t have real feet. “Foot” here refers to the base of a growth that makes roots and anchors the plant. But this distinction is an important one in knowing how to grow your orchids, and how to repot them. A more practical way to put it is:

Monopodial orchids grow upward.
Sympodial orchids grow sideways.

Sympodial orchids have a rhizome that grows sideways across the pot (or that creeps along the surface of the tree that it’s growing on), with new growths (usually pseudobulbs) at intervals. Each new growth grows up, but then stops growing. Over time, the growth of the plant is sideways. Most orchids are sympodial, including Cattleyas, Oncidiums, Dendrobiums, Paphiopedilums, Bulbophyllums, and many others.

Monopodial orchids, on the other hand, do not have a rhizome. They only have one “foot” where they are anchored to the pot (or to the tree), and only one growth, with the growing point at the end. They keep making new leaves at the end of the growth indefinitely. Over time, the growth of the plant is upwards. Monopodial orchids include Phalaenopsis, Vandas, Angraecums, and others.

What difference does it make to the grower? Quite a bit, especially when it comes to potting.

**When to repot.** Since sympodial orchids grow sideways, they will eventually grow out over the edge of the pot if not repotted. Symodial orchids make new roots for each new growth. Over time, old growths (pseudobulbs) and their roots die off. The best time to repot is when a new growth is just starting to make roots, so the new roots will help re-establish the plant.

For monopodial orchids, there is no special time to repot based on new growths, since there is only one growth. Also, they will never grow over the edge of the pot, since they grow up, not sideways. Instead, the repotting schedule is more flexible, depending more on when the potting medium is getting too broken-down.

**How to repot.** Since sympodial orchids grow sideways, the new growth is generally on one side of the plant and the old pseudobulbs are on the other side. You want to leave as much room as possible for new growth, so you don’t center the plant in the pot. Instead, put the old pseudobulbs against the edge of the pot, to allow more room for new growth.

Sometimes the plant has made multiple new growths, with the old pseudobulbs in the center. In that case, you should center the plant in the pot.

Since monopodial orchids grow up, not sideways, you should always center them in the pot.

**Whether to pot.** Some sympodial orchids, like Paphiopedilums, have very short rhizomes between growths, so the growths are right next to each other and they are easily accommodated in pots. Others, like some Bulbophyllums, make long rhizomes between growths, sometimes several inches long. (See photo). This means that they may outgrow their pot in a single year. Strategies to accommodate this include using shallow, wide pots and encouraging the rhizome to grow in a circle around the inside edge of the pot. Or perhaps the best solution: mount them on a tree where they can spread out as much as they want.

Larry Kuekes
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