Orchids, like people, are subject to diseases. Fungi, bacteria, viruses – all these can attack your orchids. How can you recognize orchid diseases, what can you do to fight them off, and how can you prevent them from attacking your orchids in the first place?

This month’s speaker will have all the answers. Robert Cating is the new assistant extension agent for the University of Hawaii’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources. Prior to moving here, Robert worked at Oregon State University, where he managed the Plant Disease Diagnostic lab.

As an avid orchid grower, Robert encountered many orchid pest and disease problems. The lack of information about these problems was the impetus for his study of orchid pests and diseases at the University of Florida, earning a Master of Science in Entomology and a PhD in Plant Pathology. Part of his time as a graduate student was spent at the Tropical Research and Education Center in Homestead, Florida, where he worked with many orchid, exotic ornamental, palm, and foliage growers in Central and South Florida.

In other words, Robert knows his orchid diseases. Want to learn how to keep your orchids healthy? Don’t miss this meeting!

Do you know the story of Vanda Miss Joaquim, the orchid featured on our logo that was responsible for this island being nicknamed “the Orchid Isle”? You can read about the history of this orchid in Hawaii on our website www.hiloorchidsociety.com. Click on the About menu, then the History sub-menu, to find out how this orchid came to be grown here by the millions.
New Officers and Trustees

The new Board of Trustees for 2019 was sworn in at the holiday party by past president Julie Goettsch (right). From left: Dorothy Imagire, Lillian Paiva, Joe Bush, Nathan Sherwood, Dana Culleney, Rick Kelley, Ben Oliveros, Lise Dowd, Larry Kuekes, Tom Mirenda. 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 2019. Those who participated in the orchid gift exchange drew numbers to see what gift orchid they got to take home. Finally, Ben Oliveros led a fast-paced, spirited auction of gorgeous orchids to raise funds for your Society.

Mahalo to all those who helped out: Dana Culleney checked in attendees, Rick Kelley ran the orchid gift exchange, Patty Goodwin made the ingenious pineapple centerpieces, Ben Oliveros, Ken Armour and Nathan Sherwood procured orchids for the auction, Ben Oliveros was our skilled auctioneer, Bill Rawson and Larry Kuekes recorded bids, Dana Culleney and Dorothy Imagire provided desserts, and Dorothy Imagire organized the whole thing.

HOS History
The Hilo Orchid Society has been around, under different names, for 80 years. If you’re interested in its history, check out the articles and photos on our website www.hiloorchidsociety.org. In addition to the history of Vanda Miss Joaquim, you’ll find an account of our founding, some photos from old orchid shows, and the intriguing story of the Hilo Orchidarium, which no longer exists. To see them, click on the About menu and the History sub-menu.

CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS
The following events are held at Kamana Senior Center, Hilo unless otherwise noted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 12</td>
<td>1:30-4:00</td>
<td>HOS Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 12</td>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>AOS Judging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St, Hilo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
<td>1:30-4:00</td>
<td>HOS Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
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<td>AOS Judging</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 22</td>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>AOS Judging, 113 Nowelo St, Hilo</td>
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Pictures from the Holiday Party and Auction

Party guests talking story before lunch. All photos by Dana and Stuart Culleney.

One of the centerpieces made by Patty Goodwin

Some Cattleyas on the auction table

President Dana Culleney and holiday party organizer Dorothy Imagire
If you think fake news is a recent phenomenon, think again. Orchids have been using fake news to get pollinated for millions of years. It has been estimated that 1/3 of all orchid species deceive their pollinators in order to get pollinated.

Previously, we saw how Ophrys orchids fake out their pollinators (male bees) into thinking they’ve found a female bee. Another trick that orchids use is to promise food to the pollinator but not deliver it.

Calopogon orchids, native to the eastern U.S., use this trick. These orchids are non-resupinate (having upside-down flowers, with the lip at the top), and the lip features a conspicuous bunch of little yellow hairs that look exactly like pollen. So the fake news is: “Hey, you lucky bee, here’s some pollen for you.”

We can tell that it isn’t really pollen, because orchid pollen doesn’t look like the pollen of other flowers. Orchid pollen is formed into little waxy bundles called pollinia, which are found in the orchid’s column. But the bee doesn’t know that.

When it sees the little yellow hairs, it thinks it has found some pollen to collect for food.

But when the bee lands on the orchid’s lip to collect the fake pollen, the orchid plays a second trick on the bee. Like the lip of Bulbophyllums, the lip of the Calopogon is hinged. It can’t support the bee’s weight, and it tips down, dumping the bee against the orchid’s column, which contains the real pollen in the form of pollinia that stick to the bee’s back. When our not-so-bright bee is tricked into visiting another Calopogon from which the pollinia have already been removed by another bee, it again gets dumped against the column, this time depositing the pollinia on the stigma (which is also part of the column). And voila! The orchid gets pollinated.

What does the bee get from taking the pratfalls in this vaudeville routine? Nothing. The same thing that we get for believing fake news.

Larry Kuekes
December AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield

Left: Cattleya coccinea ‘Melpomene’ Am/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Center Left: Cattleya trianae ‘Sebastian’ AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Center Right: Cattleya trianae v. alba ‘Mirtha Isabel’ M/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
Right: Cattleya walkeriana ‘Soft Touch’ AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros

Left: Dendrobium polysema ‘Green Goblin’ AM/AOS, grown by Jungle Mist Orchids
Center Left: Paph. Delightfully Macabre ‘Slipper Zone Syn Superb’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Center Right: Paph. Delightfully Macabre ‘Slipper Zone Tall Glamour’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Right: Paph. Fluttering Fred ‘Slipper Zone Gracefully Light’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids

Left: Paph. Fred’s Style ‘Slipper Zone Joyful Aura’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Center Left: Paph. Ghostly Contrast ‘Slipper Zone Passed By’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Center Right: Paph. Ghostly Contrast ‘Slipper Zone Ratta Tat Tat’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Right: Paph. Ghostly Contrast ‘Slipper Zone Yellow Hug’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids

Left: Paph. Jewelled Venus ‘Slipper Zone and the Fifth’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Center Left: Paph. Jewelled Venus ‘Slipper Zone Blushing Gently’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Center Right: Paph. Jewelled Venus ‘Slipper Zone Delight’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
Right: Paph. Jewelled Venus ‘Slipper Zone Relentlessly Excessive’ HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids
What is an AQ Award?
The AQ (Award of Quality) is given to a group of at least 12 different clones of a hybrid or species, at least one of which received a flower quality award (FCC, AM, or HCC), and the overall quality of the group is an improvement for the type.
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
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Recording Secretary – Lise Dowd lisedowd@aol.com
Corresponding Secretary – Joe Bush

Past President – Rick Kelley 756-8145
ricklkelley@att.net
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Trustee 2018-2019 – Nathan Sherwood 808-365-5824
nathan@akatsukaorchid.com
Trustee 2019-2020 – Lillian Paiva
Trustee 2019-2020 – Dorothy Imagire
dorothy@imagire.org

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Visit us on the web at
hilorchidsociety.org