



Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

April
2019

Next Meeting

Date: Sat., April 13, 2019
Time: 1:30-4:00
Place: Kamana Senior Center,
127 Kamana St., Hilo
Speaker: Tom Miranda
Topic: Mysteries of Orchid Pollination

To us, flowers are all about beauty. But to the plants, flowers are all about sex, i.e. pollination. Victorians were scandalized by this idea. “Who would have thought that bluebells and lilies and onions could be up to such immorality?” wrote one.

Orchids go to extraordinary lengths to get pollinated. This month, Tom Miranda, our President-Elect, will tell us all about it. An orchid grower himself since 1980, Tom was the Smithsonian’s orchid collection specialist before moving to Hawaii. In addition to



maintaining and curating the Smithsonian’s collection of 9000 orchids, Tom developed educational displays viewed by hundreds of thousands of Smithsonian visitors.

Originally trained as a marine biologist, Tom switched to orchids while living in Hawaii in his twenties. In addition to the Smithsonian, he worked with orchids at the New York Botanical Garden, the Brooklyn Botanical Garden, and the Greentree Estate on Long Island.

Tom currently writes a monthly column for Orchids magazine. One of the subjects he’s passionate about is orchid conservation.

If you want to find out more about orchid sex, don’t miss this meeting!

The Show is Coming

Our 2019 Hilo Orchid Show will be held June 28-30, with setup starting June 25. That will be here before we know it!

As always, our show’s success depends on you, the volunteers. If someone asks you to help out, please say yes. Most volunteer jobs at the show only take two hours of your time, and if you volunteer, you get into the show free!

Orchid Odyssey

Show Chair Karl Mendonca announced the theme of this year’s Hilo Orchid Show: “Orchid Odyssey”. Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey* told the adventures of the ancient Greek hero Odysseus in his perilous journey home from the Trojan War. Odyssey has become synonymous with sea voyages, long-distance travel, adventures, and overcoming obstacles. We can’t wait to see how our exhibitors use the theme for their show exhibits.

Please Pick Up Your Show Tickets

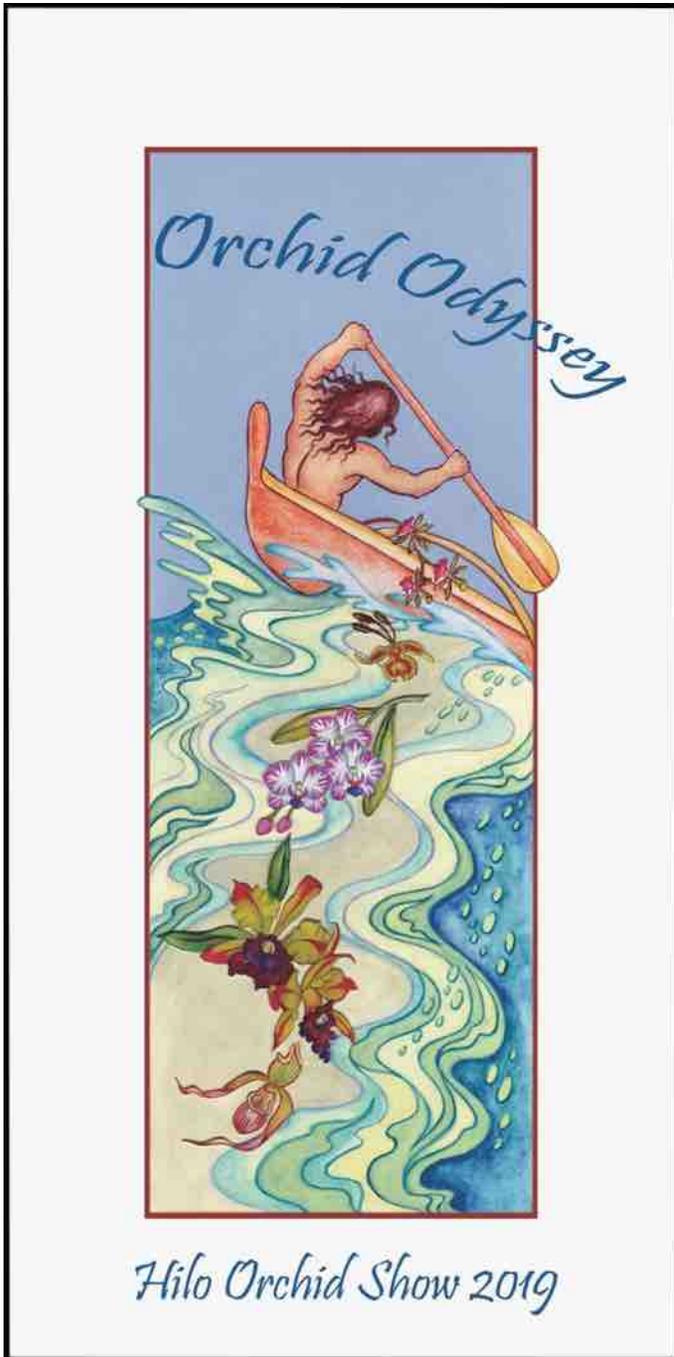
We’re asking all HOS members to buy 15 tickets for the orchid show for \$3 each, and to sell or give them to friends and neighbors. Please pick up your packet of 15 tickets at the April meeting – it saves us the cost of mailing them to you. The \$3 price is a bargain compared with \$5 at the door.

Sales of early discount tickets are a big part of the Show’s financial success. Of course, you’re not obligated to purchase the 15 tickets, but if you can, it’s a great way to help your Society.

Show Committee Meeting

The next Show Committee meeting will be held Wed. April 17 at 5:30 pm at the Kamana Senior Center. If you’d like to help with the show or have ideas on how to make it better, we hope to see you there.

2019 Hilo Orchid Show Art



Dorothy Imagire has unveiled the show art for the 2019 Hilo Orchid Show, created by local artist Esther Szegedy. It beautifully illustrates the show theme “Orchid Odyssey” with a Polynesian touch. The artwork will be used on show posters as well as items for sale at the HOS booth including T-shirts and tea towels.

T-shirts will also be available for sale at HOS meetings before the show. This design is bound to sell out, so get yours early!

About the Artist



Local artist Esther Szegedy was born in Canada of Hungarian parents. At age 18 she went to art school and was told by professors, “You have no talent whatsoever.” But she persisted, leaving school and opening a store that successfully sold her art, which the public loved, even if art professors didn’t.

After living in Boston and New Mexico, she came to Hawaii, where she now writes and illustrates children’s books. Her artwork often features whimsical animals.

Esther also created the show art for our 2017 show as well as a large hanging poster for our 2016 show (below).



March Members Choice

Photos by Dorothy Imagine



Hobbyist 1st place: *Odontocidium* Burgundian ‘Too Sweet’, grown by Glen Barfield



Left: Hobbyist 2nd place: *Phaius* Lady Ramona Harris ‘Looking at You’, grown by Dana Culleney



Right: Hobbyist 3rd place: *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*, grown by Thane Pratt

March AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Left: *Cattleya nobilior* f. *semialba* 'In the Vein' JC/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros
 Right: *Coelogyne xyrekes* 'Jungle Mist Jewel' AM/AOS, grown by Jungle Mist Orchids



From left: *Paph.* (Hawaiian Illusion x Magic Pops) 'Slipper Zone Square Jaw' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Avalon Love Stone 'Slipper Zone Yellow Dream' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Blushing Petula 'Slipper Zone Eruption' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Delightfully Macabre 'Slipper Zone Dorsals Galore' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Double Wood 'Slipper Zone Spots Rising' AM/AOS. All grown by Lehua Orchids.



From left: *Paph.* Double Wood 'Slipper Zone Tall Red' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Fluttering Fred 'Slipper Zone Glowing Joyously' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Hawaiian Magic 'Slipper Zone Venus Rising' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Hawaiian Volcano 'Slipper Zone Red at Last' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Luna Spots 'Slipper Zone Spotted Boldness' AM/AOS. All grown by Lehua Orchids.



From left: *Paph.* Macabre Wonder 'Slipper Zone Karen Lynn Muir' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Magical Peacock 'Slipper Zone Breathtaking' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Montera Vogue 'Slipper Zone Pink Aglow' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Montera Vogue 'Slipper Zone Pink Stance' HCC/AOS. All grown by Lehua Orchids.



From left: *Paph.* Spring Starlight 'Slipper Zone Double Up' AM/AOS, *Paph.* Spring Starlight 'Slipper Zone Green Ghost' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Spring Starlight 'Slipper Zone Syn Delight' HCC/AOS, *Paph.* Spring Starlight AQ/AOS. All grown by Lehua Orchids.

Treasurer's Annual Financial Statement 2018 Financial Summary

FUNDS RECEIVED

HOS ORCHID SHOW FUNDS RECEIVED	\$46,028
SOCIETY FUNDS RECEIVED	
HOLIDAY PARTY	\$2,005
DUES/MEMBERSHIP	\$4,800
DONATIONS	\$574
INTEREST INCOME	\$4
NURSERY TOUR	\$820
OUTREACH EVENTS	\$145
PLANT SALES	<u>\$7,172</u>
TOTAL SOCIETY FUNDS RECEIVED	<u>\$15,520</u>
TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED	<u>\$61,548</u>

FUNDS PAID OUT

TOTAL ORCHID SHOW COST	\$31,968
SOCIETY OPERATING COSTS	
CONTRIBUTIONS - VOLCANO RELIEF	\$8,000
CONTRIBUTION - CONSERVATION	\$1,000
HOLIDAY PARTY	\$2,833
INSURANCE	\$1,085
SCHOLARSHIPS	\$7,598
SUPPLIES	\$1,302
OUTREACH AND ZOO	\$386
AOS PHOTOS	\$3,464
PLANT COSTS	\$2,411
POSTAGE AND DELIVERY	\$114
SPEAKER COSTS	\$4,210
PRINTING	\$431
PROFESSIONAL FEES	\$1,859
NURSERY TOUR	\$858
MISC	\$385
TAXES	<u>\$978</u>
TOTAL SOCIETY OPERATING COSTS	<u>\$36,911</u>
TOTAL FUNDS PAID OUT	<u>\$68,879</u>

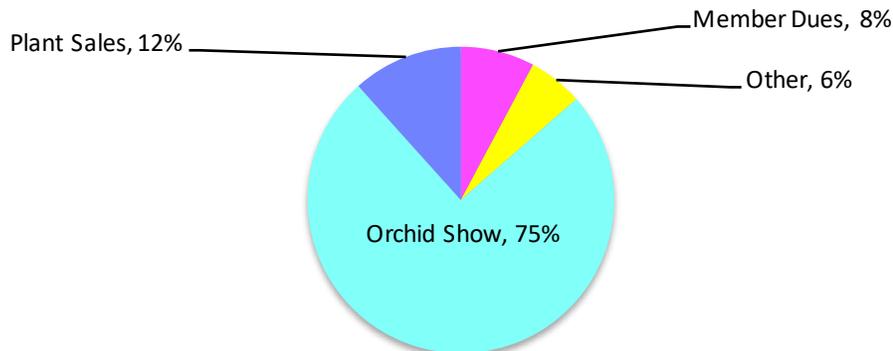
ASSETS

BANK ACCOUNTS	
CD TROPHY ACCOUNT	\$1,310.52
CHECKING ACCOUNT	\$39,919.15
SCHOLARSHIP RESERVE	\$10,500.00
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	\$24,974.89
PETTY CASH	<u>\$350.00</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$77,054.56</u>

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>\$0.00</u>
TOTAL EQUITY	\$77,054.56
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>\$77,054.56</u>

Sources of Revenues



Treasurer's Report

The 2018 Treasurer's Report is on page 5. Treasurer Larry Kuekes asks you to note two things:

- Expenses exceeded income by over \$7000, due to the Board's decision to donate the Silent Auction proceeds from the orchid show to volcano relief. This was a one-time expense that will not recur. Normally the Silent Auction proceeds go into our scholarship fund, but we already had more than enough money in that fund, so this did not affect our ability to give scholarships.
- As you can see from the chart, the vast majority of our income comes from the orchid show, not from membership dues or other sources. Last year the show did extremely well, and everyone involved should be congratulated. We hope the show does equally well this year.

Amateur Show Registration

We're encouraging non-commercial growers to create exhibits for our show. Exhibits can be mini-size (16" square), tabletop, or larger. There is no fee for exhibit space; in fact, you may be eligible for a subsidy to offset your exhibit costs. For more information, contact show chair Karl Mendonca at karlsandi@comcast.net.



In Orchids Magazine

HOS members Rick Kelley and Mary Beth Cohen are in the March issue of Orchids magazine, the journal of the American Orchid Society.

In addition to Tom Miranda's regular monthly column, Tom also wrote an article about Vining Orchids. Toward the end of that article, he says "*Arachnis hookeriana* climbs to over 25 feet (7.6 m) tall and blooms spectacularly in the gardens of Rick Kelley and Mary Beth Cohen of Kea'au Hawaii. How wonderful to have such extraordinary plants grace our gardens here in the Aloha State." A photo shows Mary Beth next to *Arachnis hookeriana* in her garden.

To join the American Orchid Society and get Orchids magazine, visit www.aos.org.

Did You Know?

The name orchid comes from the Greek *orchis*, which means – believe it or not – testicle. Several orchid species native to Greece and the Mediterranean have two oval tubers (see illustration below). So when Theophrastus, a pupil of Aristotle, wrote his book *Peri phyton historia* (*Enquiry into Plants*) in the fourth century B.C., he named the local orchid plants *Orchis* or testicles. By the way, this was the earliest mention of orchids in Western literature (Confucius had referred to Chinese orchids two hundred years earlier).



CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

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

Apr. 13	1:30-4:00	HOS Meeting
Apr. 13	4:00	AOS judging
Apr. 17	5:30 pm	Show Committee meeting
Apr. 26	6:00 pm	AOS judging, 875 Komohana St.
May 4	1:30-4:00	HOS Meeting
May 4	4:00	AOS judging
May 8	5:30 pm	Show Committee meeting
May 24	6:00 pm	AOS judging, 875 Komohana St.
June 8	1:30	HOS Picnic and Silent Auction

The following orchid show events are held at Edith Kanaka 'ole Stadium

June 27	morning	AOS judging
June 27	afternoon	Ribbon judging
June 27	6:00 pm	Preview Party
June 28	9:00-6:00	Hilo Orchid Show
June 29	9:00-5:00	Hilo Orchid Show
June 30	10:00-2:00	Hilo Orchid Show

Orchid Stories

Survival of the Trickiest, Part 6 Fake Bugs



Epipactis gigantea, native to the western U.S. Note the little bumps inside the lip that mimic aphids. Photo by NC Orchids on Flickr.com, by permission of Creative Commons license.

Nature knows no limits when it comes to the ingenious tricks that orchids play on their pollinators. Some flies have larvae that feed on aphids. A female fly will look for a plant infested with aphids as a good place to lay her eggs. Certain *Epipactis* orchid species have taken advantage of this fact.

Epipactis gigantea is a terrestrial orchid in the western United States and parts of Mexico. It emits the fragrance of honeydew, the sweet liquid excreted by aphids. This attracts the interest of female syrphid flies, also known as hoverflies. Furthermore, the lip of the orchid contains fake aphids in the form of little bumps. (If you look closely at the photo, you can see the little fleshy-looking fake aphids inside the lip.) The hoverfly thinks she has found the perfect spot to lay her eggs, and she does so on the orchid. In the process, she pollinates the flower.

A related species, *Epipactis veratrifolia*, native to south Turkey and the Middle East, has evolved a similar trick. Scientists measured the chemicals in the fragrance of this orchid and found compounds identical to the alarm pheromones given off by aphids. The hoverflies that pollinate this orchid also have larvae that eat aphids. Smelling this fragrance, a female hoverfly thinks she has found a bunch of aphids, and proceeds to lay her eggs on the orchid, again pollinating it in the process.

In both cases, when the eggs hatch, however, the fly larvae find no aphids to eat, and they starve. Presumably, other flies find enough real aphid-infested plants that the fly species survives to be deceived again into pollinating the next generation of orchids.

Larry Kuekes

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