



# Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

August  
2023

## Next Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, August 12, 2023  
**Time:** 1:30 Informal "talk story"  
2:00 Meeting starts  
**Place:** Kamana Senior Center,  
127 Kamana St., Hilo  
**Speaker:** Julie Goettsch  
**Topic:** How the Big Island became the  
Orchid Isle

Do you know why our beautiful island has the nickname "The Orchid Isle"? This month our own Julie Goettsch will tell us the story of orchids on the Orchid Isle: what orchids were here before mankind, what orchids came here next and who brought them, and the fascinating story of Vanda Miss Joaquim that was grown here by the millions.

Julie grew up in Santa Ana, CA and first came to Hawaii in 1969 as a teacher. After a stint teaching in Okinawa, Japan, she returned to Hawaii, married a submariner from Colorado, and went to Colorado with him, where she became a school principal and then worked for IBM Global Services in Boulder, CO. Julie started growing cattleya orchids in Colorado in her living room window. 17 years ago, she retired and returned to Hawaii.



Julie says she loves Hawaii, the Orchid Isle, the town of Hakalau, her 4 Persian cats, her orchids, koi, scuba diving, macro underwater photography, her Tesla, and travel.

If you're curious about the story of the Orchid Isle, don't miss this meeting!

## Auction Items at Next Meeting

We have a few small silent auction items and gift certificates that were donated late or were not claimed at the orchid show. Items include restaurant gift certificates, one Waikiki hotel gift certificate, gorgeous artwork printed on metal by local artist Harry Durgin, and a few other goodies. We will have a mini-silent auction of these items at the August meeting. The money from your successful high bids will go toward our Yasuji Takasaki Memorial Scholarship Fund and toward orchid conservation.



## New Board Member



The Board of Trustees has appointed Kathryn Duval as a Trustee-at-large to fill the position of Natalie Hebden, who resigned from the Board. Kathryn is also our Membership Chairperson. We thank Natalie for her service and welcome Kathryn to the Board.

## July Members Choice

Photos by Kathryn Duval



1<sup>st</sup> place: *Phrag. wallisii*, grown by Daniel Bark



2<sup>nd</sup> place: *Prosthechea radiata*, grown by Jeff Fendentz



3<sup>rd</sup> place: *Paph.* (Ho Chi Minh x *hangianum*), grown by Janice Williams

## Photos from the Show

Our 69<sup>th</sup> Hilo Orchid Society Show, “Waves of Orchids”, was a great success, with beautiful orchid exhibits, lots of vendors, and thousands of visitors. Here are just a few of the photos taken at the show. For many more photos, go to our website [www.hiloorchidsociety.org](http://www.hiloorchidsociety.org), click on the first “What’s New” photo (Shelby surfing the wave of orchids), and you’ll see our show photo gallery.



The Hilo Orchid Society exhibit featured giant waves.



Left: Shelby Smith surfing the wave of orchids in the Jungle Mist Orchids exhibit, built by Caleb Houck and Tim Brown.



Right: Kalapana Tropicals' exhibit featured a wave of Miltoniopsis orchids.



Left: Karl Mendonca presents Jeff Fendetz with a check for \$500 for winning both the Grand Champion (best orchid in show) and Reserve Champion (second best orchid in show). This is the first time one person has won both awards.  
 Right: Dana Culleney won an AM/AOS award for her *Cattleya Fulvescens* at left. She named the clone 'Island Sun', since she had recently bought it from Island Sun Orchids and generously wanted to share the honor of the award.



Left: Michelle Gannon won the award for best mini display  
 Right: Lori Aitcheson's Keiki Corner kept the little ones busy



Left: The HOS booth signed up new members and sold our T-shirts and calendars. From left: Jeanine Magonigal, Larry Kuekes, Greg Luetticke-Archbell, Cissy Rojas.  
 Right: Orchid Doctors Julie Goettch (left) and Donna Barr answered people's questions about orchids



Left: *Paphiopedilum* Hilo Macabre 'Okika', grown by Glen Barfield, won the trophy for Best Slipper Orchid  
Right: *Dendrobium* Stardust 'Firebird'



Left: A nigro-hirsute type *Dendrobium*, grown by Steven Meyer  
Right: A wave of *Phalaenopsis* orchids for sale



Left: *Rhynchosstylis retusa* in the Shogun Hawaii display, grown by Matthias Seelis  
Right: Leslie Hayes-Cullins, at right, with her exhibit of miniature and unusual orchids

See our gallery at [www.hiloorchidsociety.org](http://www.hiloorchidsociety.org) for many more!

## Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

President – Karl Mendonca

Vice President – Ben Oliveros 345-1371  
[oliveros@orchideros.com](mailto:oliveros@orchideros.com)

Treasurer – Rick Kelley

Recording Secretary – Lise Dowd [lisedowd@aol.com](mailto:lisedowd@aol.com)

Corresponding Secretary – Larry Kuekes

President-Elect – Ellen Train

Past President – Tom Miranda [biophiliak@gmail.com](mailto:biophiliak@gmail.com)

Trustee 2022-2023 – Kevin Evans

Trustee 2022-2023 – Sandra Dixon

Trustee 2023-2024 – Rusty Gorton

Trustee 2023-2024 – Kathryn Duval

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