

Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

June 2015

Next Meeting

Date: Sat., June 13, 2015
Time: **1:30** Informal “talk story”
2:00 Meeting starts
Place: Kamana Senior Center,
127 Kamana St., Hilo
Speaker: Tom Nasser
Topic: Bulbophyllum

Bulbophyllum is a huge genus of orchids, with over a thousand species and great variety in the flowers. They range from the beautiful to the bizarre. They're pollinated by flies, not bees, so some of them are quite stinky, smelling like rotting meat to attract the flies. But other ones have no odor or a pleasant fragrance. Most of them like to grow warm and wet, so they're easy to grow in Hilo.

This month we'll learn all about bulbophyllums from Tom Nasser of Carolina Orchids in Fort Mill, South Carolina. He and his wife Shan started their orchid nursery in 1980 as Clemson Orchids, later renamed Carolina Orchids. Tom is a species enthusiast and specializes in bulbophyllums and angraecums. He will have plants for sale at the meeting.

But that's not all! Leslie Hayes-Cullins will briefly tell us about the artistic mini-displays that she fell in love with at the Tokyo Dome show, and how we're going to bring the concept to our own August show. At only 16" square, we think some of you might want to try creating one (see more information on page 5).

Want to find out more about the beautiful and bizarre Bulbos? Be sure not to miss this meeting!



Please Pick Up Your Show Tickets

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

Because the Show will be in a new and smaller venue this year, we're concerned about attendance. Members can help significantly by circulating your set of tickets to friends and neighbors to build awareness of the show. Sales of early discount tickets are a big part of the Show's financial success. The member who sells the most tickets wins a pair of tickets to the December Holiday Party and a free 2016 HOS membership.

Orchids Avant-Garde

The 63rd Hilo Orchid Society Show and Sale, “Orchids Avant-Garde”, is coming this August. It's the biggest and best orchid show in the state of Hawai'i, and it will take place in a NEW VENUE, Afook-Chinen Civic Auditorium, August 6 – 9. AOS and ribbon judging activities as well as the Preview Party kick off the event on Thursday August 6. Then the show will open to the public, featuring dazzling displays of orchids and vendor booths. Show hours are:

Friday, Aug. 7	9 a.m. – 6 p.m
Saturday, Aug. 8	9 a.m. – 5 p.m
Sunday, Aug. 9	10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

August is not far away, and show preparations are already in full swing. Rick Kelley is working very hard as our Show Chair, and he has an experienced group of folks on the Show Committee helping to make the show a reality. Here's what's going on:

Show Tickets. Joe Bush will handle the distribution of show tickets to members.

To open the Show to young families, Dorothea Fendenz is organizing distribution of a new class of family tickets to 15,000 East Hawai'i K-12 students the second week of school, just before Show opens. These tickets allow each student and one accompanying adult in for free. A similar coupon will appear in the newspaper for those students who somehow miss receiving a ticket at school.

Judging. On Thursday, August 6, before the show is open to the public, events begin with AOS judging in the morning and ribbon judging in the afternoon. Karen Kimmerle will coordinate the AOS judging. Leonard Gines and John Juszczak will be in charge of ribbon and trophy judging by HOS members. Teams of HOS volunteers lead by an experienced AOS judge award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes (blue, red, and white 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 \$65. The Afook-Chinen auditorium is smaller than last year, so there will be fewer tickets available. This event always sells out, so buy now! Make checks payable to Ku'ikahi Mediation Center. (See more information on page 5.)

HOS Display. Multi-talented Shelby Smith will be designing the Hilo Orchid Society display again this year, and he needs our assistance to make it a success. It will be "very Avant-Garde!" If you have some nice-looking, 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, and you just might win a ribbon or a beautiful etched crystal vase trophy. Start fertilizing now and as spikes come up, stake them to be their most beautiful. Let's all help Shelby create our HOS Avant-Garde masterpiece!

T-shirts and more for sale. Lisa Steinmeyer will have gorgeous, black T-shirts, V-necks, and tanks with this year's bold show logo designed by Shelby available at the June HOS meeting for \$15. Also available will be golf/polo shirts for \$25. "If we don't have your size, we can order!" says Lisa. "And, new this year are Hilo Orchid Society baseball caps and visors, \$15 each! Bring cash or check to the June HOS meeting to make your

purchase and support our fabulous organization, Hilo Orchid Society!"

Food and Fun. Rayna Armour is again using her formidable creative energy to organize refreshments, entertainment, and the fashion show. There will be a variety of delicious, reasonably priced dishes from local sources for sale right inside the show, with tables and chairs where you can sit and eat. On Friday and Saturday at lunch time and in the late afternoon, there will be musical entertainment by talented Hawaiian performers. On Saturday, we will host a fashion show on stage by Wahine Toa Designs. Models will display new designs for men and women by acclaimed Hawaiian designer Nita Pilago. This fashion show and sale of items from the clothing line immediately after the show were enormously popular last year. Hana hou!

Speakers. Pauline Brault has arranged for an excellent series of speakers and demonstrations to be presented by our most knowledgeable HOS members throughout the three days of the show. Topics will cover various types of orchids and how to grow them.

Silent Auction. Leslie Hayes-Cullins has generously agreed to organize the silent auction, where show attendees can bid on donated items to raise money for our scholarship fund. Quality donations are still being sought and accepted. Leslie needs help with picking up donations after they have been offered because she lives in Kohala. Also, she is looking for volunteers to watch the silent auction items in shifts of a couple of hours each day and help with checkout. Please email Leslie at leslie@cullinsplumbing.com

HOS/Membership Table. Larry Kuekes and Victoria Azuloas will organize our table where visitors can get questions answered and join our Society.

Will you help? Putting on a show means taking care of a myriad of tasks, as you can imagine, from the descriptions of activities above. In addition, volunteers are needed for setup, take down, front gate and daytime security. 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 big hit because of you! Get involved and make new orchid-nut friends.

Ruth Robison

May Members Choice Awards

Photos by Glory Garner



Left: Hobbyist 1st place – *Eria ornata*, grown by Bill Rawson



Right: Hobbyist 2nd place – *Epidendrum riodomense(?)*, grown by Momi Szirom



Left: Hobbyist 3rd place – *Vanda Hilo Monarch*, grown by Jane Awa



Right: Commercial 1st place – *Brassia caudate* var. *alba*, grown by Malika Orchids



Left: Commercial 2nd place – *Polystachya paniculata*, grown by Malika Orchids



Right: Commercial 3rd place – *Bulbophyllum coccinum*, grown by Malika Orchids

May AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Top left: *Masdevallia* Peach Allure 'Lehua's Fuzzy Fantasy', AM/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids

Top center: *Dendrobium cruentum* 'Crazy Over You' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Top right: *Paphiopedilum adductum* v. *anitum* 'Ninja' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Left: *Paph. hangianum* 'Pastel Alien' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Bottom left: Paph. Macabre Magic 'Lehua Lots of Spots' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids

Bottom right: Paph. Venus Knight 'Glowing Yellow Lehua' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids



Gala Preview Party is August 6



Preview party guests enjoying the food, drink and company amid thousands of orchids.

The 2015 benefit Preview Party kicks off HOS's 63rd Orchid Show and Sale at the Afook-Chinen Civic Auditorium. Held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 6, the gala event features drinks, food, music, and orchid pre-sales.

Libations include a selection of fine wines, plus beer from Kona Brewing Co., served in a souvenir wine or beer glass. Delectable food will be catered by Island Naturals and AJ & Sons Catering. 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 both the HOS scholarship fund and 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 \$65, of which \$25 is tax deductible, and can be purchased at: The Most Irresistible Shop (256 Kamehameha Ave.), Hilo Coffee Mill (17-995 Volcano Hwy.), and Ku'ikahi Mediation Center (The Hilo Lagoon Centre, 101 Aupuni St, Suite PH 1014 B-2). Or contact Julie Mitchell at 935-7844 x 5 or julie@hawaiimediation.org.

New Show Mini-Displays

Leslie Hayes-Cullins is introducing the concept of miniature displays (not necessarily displays of miniature orchids) to our HOS Orchid Show, after she fell in love with them at the most recent Tokyo Dome show. If you would like to create such a display, let Leslie know. It must be 16" x 16" or smaller with no height limit. Leslie explains, "Just like a regular display you can use foliage, driftwood, bamboo, etc. in addition to orchid plants. Cut orchid flowers will be allowed. The plants will not need to be labeled as it is judged as a design form. I am so excited about this; it's fun and I think doable for so many people." Regarding the orchids in the display, you can grow your own, "buy, borrow – whatever works."

Leslie plans to bring a "rule" sheet and a paper written by Greg Kobayashi on design to the June HOS meeting. We will have pictures of some of the mini-displays at the Japan show available soon on our website – stay tuned.



CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

Hilo Orchid Society meetings and AOS Judging are held at Kamana Senior Center, Hilo unless otherwise specified.

- June 13 1:30 HOS Meeting
4:00 AOS Judging
- July 11 1:30 HOS Meeting
4:00 AOS Judging

The following Hilo Orchid Society Orchid Show events are held at the Afook-Chinen Civic Auditorium

- Aug. 5 Noon: Bring plants for HOS exhibit
- Aug. 6 Morning: AOS Judging
Afternoon: ribbon judging
6:00 – 9:00 pm: Preview Party
- Aug. 7 9:00 am – 6:00 pm: Show open to the public
- Aug. 8 9:00 am – 5:00 pm: Show open to the public
- Aug. 9 10:00 am – 2:00 pm: Show open to the public

Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

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