

Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

March 2016

Next Meeting

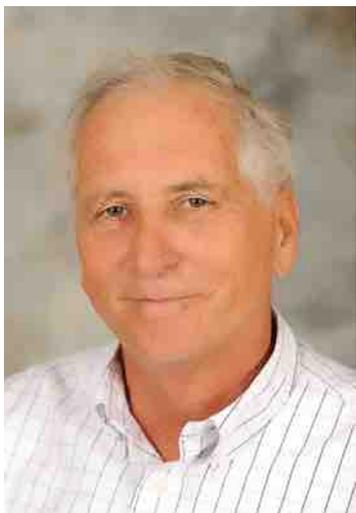
Date: Sat., March 12, 2016
Time: **1:30-4:00**
Place: Kamana Senior Center,
127 Kamana St., Hilo
Speaker: Courtney Hackney
Topic: **Classic Cattleya Hybridizing
in the U.S.**

The first Cattleya hybrid was registered in 1859, and ever since, hybridizers have been producing bigger, shapelier, and more colorful flowers, first in England and then in the United States. The book *American Cattleyas* by Courtney Hackney tells the story in photographs and print of how our modern Cattleyas came to be. This month, Professor Hackney is our speaker, and he will tell us all about it.

Courtney Hackney was raised in the Florida Keys, where vanilla and *Encyclia tampensis* grew wild. As a teenager he worked for a small local orchid nursery, beginning a lifelong interest in orchid hybridizing and culture. He left the Keys in 1968 to pursue a career in biology, earning his PhD in 1977. He is currently Director of Coastal Biology at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Florida.

He grows many different genera, but his favorite is the Cattleya Alliance, especially classic clones, some of which appeared in orchid collections over 100 years ago. He makes 8-10 hybrids and species sib crosses per year in various genera.

For 20 years he wrote a Growing Tips column that was published in newsletters around the country.



He has also been published in Orchid Digest. He and his wife Rose live in Jacksonville, Florida, adjacent to a tidal swamp, with *Epi. conopseum* growing in trees in his back yard and a 24' x 25' shade house for his orchid collection.

Last Chance To Pay Dues

If you don't renew your membership by the end of this month, according to our Bylaws, we have to drop you from our membership. Please don't make us do that! If you haven't already renewed, please fill out the form page 7 and mail it in with your payment (address is on the form), or you can pay at the meeting. Thanks!

New members who joined at last year's orchid show or in September or later are considered paid through 2016. Dues are still only \$20 for individual membership or \$25 for family membership. In return, you get a year of interesting speakers, newsletters, and activities, plus the chance to get together with folks who share your interest in these beautiful and fascinating plants.

Show Committee

The Show Committee will meet on Weds. Mar. 16 at 5:00 pm at the Kamana Senior Center, Room 2. If you'd like to help out with the show, please join us.



CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

All meetings are held at Kamana Senior Center, Hilo unless otherwise specified.

Mar. 12	1:30	HOS Meeting
	4:00	AOS Judging
Mar. 16	5:00	Show Committee meeting
Apr. 9	1:30	HOS Meeting
	4:00	AOS Judging
Apr. 20	5:00	Show Committee meeting
June 3-5	1:30	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale, Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium

February Members' Choice Awards

Photos by Glory Garner



Hobbyist 1st place: *Blc. Rugley's Mill*, grown by Cindy Crawford



Commercial 1st place: *Oerstedella centradenia*, grown by Malika Orchids



Left: Hobbyist 2nd place: *Dendrochilum* species, grown by Leslie Hayes-Cullins
Right: Commercial 2nd place: *Vanda Fiftieth State Beauty*, grown by Karen Kimmerle



Commercial 3rd place: *Cattlianthe Gold Digger 'Fuch's Mandarin'*, grown by Malika Orchids



Hobbyist 3rd place: *Den. (woodsii x aberrans)*, grown by Janice Williams

February AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Left: *Paphiopedilum* Cali Charm 'Christmas' AM/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Paphiopedilum* De Perle 'Lehua's Pink Pearls' AM/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids



Left: *Paphiopedilum haynaldianum* f. *album* 'Flirtaceously Lehua' AM/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids

Right: *Laelia rupestris* 'Orchid Eros' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Orchid Eros



Left: *Rlc.* Volcano Glory 'Enormous' AM/AOS, exhibited by Shogun Hawaii

Center: *Phragmipedium* Giganteum 'Mem. Dorothy Jaunita Walker' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Orchid Fix Nursery

Right: *Vanda* Fiftieth State Beauty 'Two Tone Magenta' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Island Sun Orchids

Member of the Month Peter Christensen



Peter by a steam vent at Kilauea

Peter Christensen has been growing orchids since 1971, having started in a Lord & Burnham window greenhouse.

He remembers visiting a local tropical plant/orchid nursery and explaining that he wanted a small plant that would not get more than eight inches tall. He still thinks that the proprietor must have had a wry sense of humor: he sold him an *Oncidium leucochilum* that actually bloomed soon after. The inflorescence was a VERY long spike that didn't fit in the window. He actually still has a stereo color slide of that plant in bloom. (Back then stereo photography was still popular!)

He gave that plant away, but his next one was a *Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum*, and that was an amazingly tough plant that lived and bloomed for decades. He finally gave that one away when he moved to the Big Island from New Jersey.

He loves it here and is living just outside Honoka'a, near Kalopa State Park. He does not have a lot of orchids because he is trying to grow them mostly mounted on trees. He reports that some of the vandas have really taken off and finds growing orchids on trees very rewarding.

He loves to travel, but has only visited the tropics a few times, and has rarely seen orchids during his travels. In Costa Rica he did see some

maxillarias but not much else. While in Belize, he saw just a few *Encyclia cochleata*. And saw no orchids at all in East Africa.

Peter has worked in rare books (fun!), computers (a bit boring), as a home health aid (extremely stressful!) and is now starting a small tea farm on the Hamakua Coast (fabulous!).

Pauline Brault



Silent Auction Donations

Please consider being a donor to our annual Scholarship Fundraiser, the Silent Auction at the 64th Annual Hilo Orchid Show in June. If you are an artist, please consider donating one of your works of art. If you provide a service, please consider donating that service (e.g. certificates for massages, acupuncture, hair styling, auto services.) If you own, or often patronize, a particular business, please consider giving, or asking that business to donate (e.g. juice bars, restaurants, plant nurseries, etc.)

100% of the profits from the Silent Auction go to our HOS-Yasuji Takasaki Memorial Scholarship fund. Mr. Takasaki, founder of Carmela Orchids, was one of the pioneers in the orchid industry on Hawaii Island, and he believed in the power of education. Scholarships named in his honor, currently \$3000 per student per year, go to students studying at University of Hawaii, Hilo Campus. If you were at the February HOS meeting you saw our two current scholarship winners and heard them speak about their studies and thank HOS members for the generous scholarships (see photo on page 5).

HOS raised over \$6,000 in each of the last two Silent Auctions. We hope that with your help, this year's silent auction will reach that amount or more.

It is not too early to begin soliciting donations right now, since our show is in June. If you would like a letter to accompany your request, contact Sheryl Rawson at sherylhilo@gmail.com. When you do receive or give a donation, please contact Sheryl so pick up can be arranged. THANK YOU!!

Scholarship Winners



Scholarship Committee members Barbara Heintz (left) and Sonia Juvik (right) presented our Yasuji Takasaki Memorial Scholarship winners for Spring 2016. Rochelle (Shelly) Nowaki (center left) wants to write a history of the orchid industry on this island. Miguel Bravo (center right), an exchange student from Colombia, hopes to expand orchid industry connections between Hawaii and Colombia, for the benefit of both places.

UHH Students Learn About Orchids



Students in Prof. Sakai's class at the University of Hawaii toured The OrchidWorks on Feb. 17 to learn about commercial orchid growing. Above, Ken Armour shows the students *Taeniophyllum pusillum*, a rare leafless orchid.

Mini Orchid Displays



Last month Peter Lin talked about mini orchid displays at the Tokyo Dome show, displays that are only 18 inches or so wide and are feasible for an individual orchid grower to create, without requiring hundreds of orchids like a large floor display.

While we were looking at Peter's slides, Julie Goettsch was actually in Tokyo, viewing this year's Tokyo Dome show. These are some of Julie's photos of mini displays that she saw there. To see

more photos, including our own mini displays from last year's Hilo Orchid Show, check out the new gallery "Mini Displays in Hilo and Tokyo" on our website www.hiloorchidsociety.org.

We'd love to have more HOS members create artistic mini displays for the upcoming Hilo Orchid Show. It only takes a few orchids and a little imagination. If you're interested, contact Leslie Hayes-Cullins at leslie@cullinsplumbing.com.

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– Rick Kelley 756-8145

rickkelley@att.net

Vice President – Ben Oliveros 345-1371

oliveros@orchideros.com

Treasurer – Bill Rawson 934-0552

Recording Secretary – Lisa Steinmeyer 769-4245

lisa@happyinhilo.com

Corresponding Secretary – Joe Bush

hilojoe@twc.com

Past President – Larry Kuekes 860-380-7964

lkuekes@me.com

Trustee 2015-2016 – Lillian Paiva

Trustee 2015-2016 – Barry Yamada

Trustee 2016-2017 – Ken Armour 808-963-6233

ken@theorchidworks.com

Trustee 2016-2017 – Shelby Smith 408-966-5924

skelatenphish@yahoo.com

Hilo Orchid Society

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hiloorchidsociety.org