

# Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

June 2016

## There is no June meeting due to our annual show

### Key Show Dates & Times:

- Tues. May 31** 9 am to noon – Bring your blooming orchids to lend to the Hilo Orchid Society's display.
- Thurs. June 2** Morning – AOS Judging  
Afternoon – Ribbon Judging.  
6 pm to 9 pm – Preview Party
- Fri. June 3** 9 am to 6 pm – Show is open
- Sat. June 4** 9 am to 5 pm – Show is open  
Noon – Fashion show
- Sun. June 5** 10 am to 2 pm – Show is open  
2 pm – Show takedown. Pick up orchids if you lent them to the Society display.

All show events are at the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium, Hilo.



## Please Lend Us Your Orchids

We want your orchids for the HOS exhibit! Don't think that somebody else will provide them. The big growers can't lend us orchids because they have their own displays. So we're counting on the little growers. If everyone can lend us one or two nice orchids, our display will be gorgeous. If nobody does, it will be bare and ugly.

If you have some nice orchids in bloom at the time of the show, and they're pest-free, please lend them to our display. Even one or two beautiful orchids make a difference, and if enough people bring them, the result will be spectacular!

Bring your orchids to the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium on **Tues., May 31 between 9 a.m. and noon**. Plan on picking them up promptly at 2 p.m. on Sunday, June 5 when the show closes. Mahalo!

## How to Prepare Your Orchids For the Show

- Estimate what's likely to be in bloom for the show.
- Continue watering and feeding to encourage best blooming. Now is not the time to let a drought ruin your flowers.
- Consider staking the flowers for best viewing if they aren't naturally held upright. Staking needs to be done *before* the flowers open. After they open, staking them will put them into unnatural-looking positions.
- We can only use healthy plants, so they must have no scale or other insects and especially *no little fire ants* (see article below).
- Prepare a list of the orchids you're lending us and give us the list along with the plants. This helps us keep track of them and makes sure you get back the plants you lent us.

Mahalo!



## How to Test for Little Fire Ants

We want your blooming orchids for the show, but not if they have little fire ants, which could spread to someone else's orchids.

If you have little fire ants on your property, they could be hiding in your orchid pots, even if you don't see them. We will be testing all plants that members bring in with the "peanut butter" test, but if you have any doubt, please test your plants before you bring them in. Here's how.

Take a thin piece of wood (like half a chopstick or a coffee stirrer) or a strip of cardboard a few inches long, smear a thin layer of peanut butter on one end, and stick it in the pot. Wait an hour. If little fire ants are present, they will be all over the peanut butter.

## May Members' Choice Awards

Photos by Glory Garner



Left: Hobbyist 1<sup>st</sup> place: *Lc.* unknown, grown by Dana Culleney

Right: Hobbyist 2<sup>nd</sup> place: *Lc.* Hawaiian Ice, grown by Dana Culleney



Left: Hobbyist 3<sup>rd</sup> place: *Paphiopedilum* Greyi, grown by Glory Kirkland

Right: Commercial 1<sup>st</sup> place: *Bulbophyllum vaginatum*, grown by Karen Kimmerle



Left: Commercial 2<sup>nd</sup> place: *Brassavola nodosa* x *Lc.* Maui Plum, grown by Aka's Orchids

Right: Commercial 3<sup>rd</sup> place: *Zygonisia* Cynosure 'Dove of Peace', grown by Malika Orchids

## May AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Left: *Encyclia codigera* v. *rosea* 'Tower of Power' FCC/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Center: *Dendrobium unicum* 'Tangerine Dream' FCC/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Right: *Encyclia cordigera* v. *rosea* 'Purple Rain' AM/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm



*Den. tobaense* v. *giganteum* 'Green Mysery'  
AM/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Paph.* Shin-Yi Williams 'Night Hawk' AM/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm



Right: *Paph.* Hsinying Anita 'Bold Statement' AM/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm



*Paph.* (Shun-Fa Golden x *armeniaccum*) 'Lemon Parfait' AM/AOs, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

## **Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club Receives 2016 Orchid Isle Award**

When former HOS president Julie Goettsch launched the Orchid Isle Project three years ago to encourage individuals, groups, and businesses to place beautiful orchids in visible places around the island, it was only natural to recognize those who have made this a reality. In the past two years, HOS recognized the great work of the Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens and of Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden.

This year, at noon on Friday June 3 at the show, HOS president Rick Kelley will present the award to one of our sister orchid societies on the Orchid Isle, the Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club. Not only did they create a beautiful Orchid Grotto in what was previously waste space on the grounds of the Daifukuji Temple in Kealakekua, but they have also placed orchids in trees around the Outrigger Kanaloa Resort and at Greenwell Coffee Farm, and they built

a Healing Garden and refreshed the visitors' garden at the Kona Community Hospital. They are truly putting orchids back in the Orchid Isle!

## **Picnic In July**

July won't be a regular meeting. Instead, we're having a picnic, and you're all invited! This year the picnic will be held on Sat., July 9 in the picnic table/lanai area at the Kamana Senior Center (not at Wailoa River Park like last year). It's a potluck event – we're asking everyone to bring something to share. We'll have some soda and water to drink, but you're welcome to bring your own beer or wine.

There will also be a silent auction of orchids donated by orchid show vendors. But there isn't any official program – just eating and having a good time! Feel free to bring your kids, family, and friends.

We'll remind you again in July, but for now, mark your calendar!



Julie Goettsch gave a jump-start to Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club volunteers as they joined us in implementing the Orchid Isle project. Here she shows Greenwell Coffee Farm staff and Daifukuji volunteers how to mount an orchid. Photo by Joyce Hancock.

## Member of the Month Nora James



Nora James was born and raised in the little town of Lahaina, Maui, where the 'common' and Haden mangoes were very popular because they grew so well in warm weather. Also, popular at that time were the lavender honohono (*Dendrobium anosmum*) orchids which she raised, and that was the beginning of her love for orchids. Believe it or not, she used rice water as there were no stores that sold fertilizer at that time.

After graduation, she moved to the 'big city' of Honolulu to attend business college. Shortly after graduation, she was offered a job as private secretary to the industrialist Henry J. Kaiser, who just purchased the Hawaiian Village, later named Kaiser Hawaiian Village. As secretary, it was extremely exciting for her to be witnessing the renovation and expansion of the hotel, the building of the Aluminum Dome Convention and Entertainment Center, the Kaiser Medical Hospital, KHVH Radio and TV stations, Magic Island, then the Hawaii Kai project.

Nora worked for Mr. Kaiser for 8 years but when Mrs. Kaiser needed help to run her Alekai Kennels where she bred and raised standard poodles and knowing that Nora loved dogs, Mr. Kaiser asked her if she wanted the job. She quickly raised her hand. She showed many of her poodles in Hawaii and Madison Square Garden in New York. Nora owned

two standard poodles given to her by Mrs. Kaiser that she took to her job at the estate.

While working at the Hawaii Kai office, Nora met and married Roger James, the construction chief of the project.

When Roger and Nora retired working for the Kaisers, they built the Koko Head Stables near Sandy Beach. Roger was also an old time rodeo cowboy who raised horses previously. There, Roger taught riding, and they rented, stabled, bred and sold horses. They had 50 horses at the stables. Nora then organized the 4-H horsemanship Leadership called the Koko Head Trail Blazers of young riders (10-18 years old) who were taught everything about horses from caring for them to competing and riding them at parades. They also were taught to care for other animals like dogs, cats, chickens, sheep, birds, etc. It was clearly an Old MacDonald's Farm.

At the same time, Nora was offered a secretary/supervisor's position working for Mayor Frank F. Fasi at City Hall. It was an amazingly exciting time for her working for him for 8 years.

Shortly after Roger and Nora sold Koko Head Stables and moved to the Big Island, Roger's home town. Their ranch, the James Ranch, was located near Pahala where soon after, Roger became ill. When he passed away, Nora was forced to sell all the animals and the ranch. She then took a State exam, acquired a job as Court clerk for the State Judiciary's District Court in Kona and Hilo, then as a Council Services Assistant for the County Council.

Following Nora's retirement in 2001, she needed to do something so she signed up for golf lessons where she met her very good friend, Vivian Ueoka. Together they golfed and then they both decided to join the Hilo Orchid Society in 2006. Today, she's still a hobbyist and is enjoying all the meetings and members, and honohono is still her favorite orchid. Also, her other favorite (buddy) is her poodle 'Jessie' James.

Pauline Brault

## CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

*The following events are held at Kamana Senior Center, Hilo*

July 9	1:30	HOS Annual Picnic and Auction
	4:00	AOS Judging
Aug. 13	1:30	HOS Meeting
	4:00	AOS Judging

## Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

President– Rick Kelley 756-8145

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