



# Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

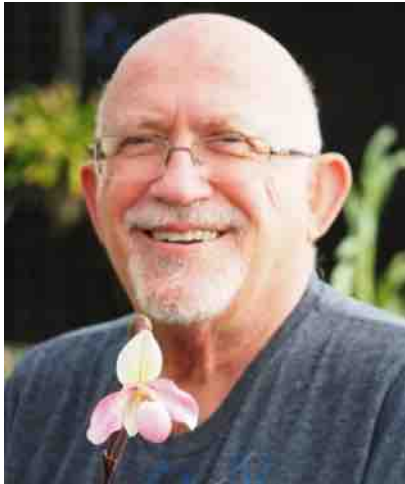
November  
2024

## Next Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, November 9, 2024  
**Time:** 1:30 Informal "talk story"  
2:00 Meeting starts  
**Place:** Kamana Senior Center,  
127 Kamana St., Hilo  
**Speaker:** Harold Koopowitz  
**Topic:** Disa

Disa is an orchid genus from South Africa and neighboring countries, including the spectacular bright red *Disa uniflora*, known as the Pride of Table Mountain.

Our speaker, Harold Koopowitz, grew up in South Africa. He then moved to California where he got his doctorate. He is Professor Emeritus of Biology at the University of California, Irvine. He was a founder of Orchid Digest magazine, and he edited that magazine for ten years.



Harold is known for his breeding of slipper orchids as well as miniature daffodils. He has written over a hundred books and articles on conservation and breeding orchids, as well as a series of entertaining fictional tales about orchid hunters (based on fact) called The Adventures of George and Matilda.

Harold will be here in January to host the World Slipper Orchid Symposium being held in Hilo, and I'm sure he'll tell us about that, too.

Not many of us grow Disas, and we seldom get to see them, so be sure not to miss this meeting!

## Sign Up for the Holiday Party

In December, we're holding our annual Holiday Party and Auction on Sat., Dec. 14 at the Hilo Yacht Club.

The event includes a delicious lunch, followed by an auction of donated plants, where you have the chance to obtain some special orchids and benefit your Society at the same time.

You must sign up and pay in advance. The price is \$25 per person for HOS members, and \$60 per person (the actual cost of the meal) for non-members. If you want to bring your spouse/partner and you have an individual membership, you can upgrade to a joint (family) membership for only \$5, to avoid paying the \$60 non-member cost for your spouse/partner.

You can sign up at the November meeting.



## Hilo Orchid Society Items for Sale

Our Orchid Isle 2025 calendar features orchids grown by our members right here on the Orchid Isle (above). It makes a great Christmas gift for friends and family. You can buy it at our November meeting for \$9.

Also for sale are HOS logo stickers, featuring Vanda Miss Joaquim, \$3, black tote bags and white tote bags with pink trim, both with the HOS logo, \$20, and dark green aprons with the HOS logo, \$20.

We can always use volunteers to help us at the meetings with things like selling these items. If you can help, let us know.

## Election of Officers and Trustees

The election of officers and trustees for 2025 will take place at the November meeting. Board members serve two-year terms, with half the members up for election each year. For 2025, our Nominating Committee has produced the following slate of officers and trustees:

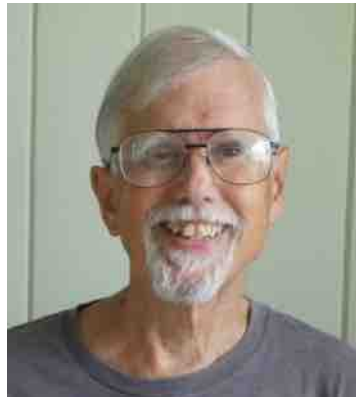
### Vice President

Tom Mirenda is a well-known figure in the orchid world, author of a monthly column in Orchids magazine and former curator of the Smithsonian's orchid collection. He was appointed our Vice President in Feb. 2024, replacing Ben Oliveros who resigned due to other commitments.



### Recording Secretary

Larry Kuekes has served as President, Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary. He is also our newsletter editor and webmaster. He moved to Hawaii in 2010 and grows a small but diverse collection of mostly species orchids.



### Corresponding Secretary

Dana Culleney has served as President. Dana grew up in Hawaii before it was a state, then lived all over the country before returning to Hawaii. Dana is very active in HOS, including maintaining our Facebook page.



### Trustee

Lise Dowd has served on the Board as Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Trained as a marine biologist, she is a retired professor of biology. Lise grew orchids in Miami for 25 years before moving to Hawaii.



### Trustee

Kathryn Duval is a current Trustee and also our Membership Chairperson. Kathryn has been active in promoting HOS in events such as Master Gardeners.



Additional nominations may be made from the floor. Any additional nominees must be present at the meeting and willing to run against the slate endorsed by the Nominating Committee.



## Beware of Bogus Emails

Recently, some members received emails claiming to be from our President, Ellen Train, soliciting them to buy gift cards, something that Ellen would never do. A quick check showed that the email source was a strange address (naturewithlove73@gmail.com) that was certainly not Ellen's email address.

If you receive similar emails that don't pass the "smell test" purporting to be from people you know, please check who's sending the email. It will be quickly obvious if it's bogus.



# October Show and Tell Table

Photos by Dana Culleney



Left: *Cycnoches Jumbo Cooper* (female flowers)  
Right: *Dendrochilum glumaceum*



Left: *Miltonia moreliana*  
Center: No-name *Miltoniopsis*  
Right: *Vanda* nicknamed "Purple people eater"





*Paph.* Hawaiian Illusion 'Slipper Zone Red Beckons' HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids



Left: *Paph. gratrixianum* h.v. *daoense* 'Slipper Zone Perner Pops' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids  
Right: *Vanda brunnea* 'Lusciously Lemony' AM/AOS, grown by Island Sun Orchids





*Stanhopea wardii* 'Mauna Loa' HCC/AOS, grown by Okika.



Another view of *Stanhopea wardii* 'Mauna Loa' HCC/AOS, grown by Okika.

## Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

President – Ellen Train [pecetrain@gmail.com](mailto:pecetrain@gmail.com)  
Vice President – Tom Miranda [biophilialk@gmail.com](mailto:biophilialk@gmail.com)  
President-Elect – Kathy Gollaher  
Treasurer – Rick Kelley  
Recording Secretary – Lise Dowd [lisedowd@aol.com](mailto:lisedowd@aol.com)  
Corresponding Secretary – Larry Kuekes

Past President – Karl Mendonca  
Trustee 2023-2024 – Kathryn Duval  
Trustee 2023-2024 – Greg Luetticke-Archbell  
Trustee 2024-2025 – Sandra Dixon  
Trustee 2024-2025 – Cyndi Helton

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