

Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

May 2016

Next Meeting

Date: Sat., May 14, 2016

Time: 1:30-4:00

Place: Kamana Senior Center,
127 Kamana St., Hilo

Speaker: Vern Bloch

Topic: *Brassavola Nodosa* and its
Hybrids

Everyone should grow *Brassavola nodosa*, not just for its elegant flowers, but for its wonderful evening fragrance, which earned it the nickname “lady of the night”. But wait, there’s more! This month’s speaker, Vern Bloch from Malabar, Florida, writes: “As a commercial orchid grower, I was often asked ‘What is the easiest orchid for beginners?’ My recommendation was, and still is, *Brassavola nodosa* hybrids. They are easy to grow, especially in places like Hawaii, they bloom several times a year, offering a wide spectrum of colors and flowers that tend to last fairly well, with lots of evening fragrance.”



Vern is a retired navy pilot who got into orchids after leaving the service in 1987. Two years later, he and his wife Helen became owners of the Palm Bay Orchid Range. They sold the nursery in 2004, but continue to do business on a small scale. For the past 25 years Vern has been speaking at orchid societies. His main interest has always been the *Cattleya* alliance.

If you like easy-to-grow orchids with beautiful patterns and colors, you won’t want to miss this meeting!



Brassavola nodosa (left) and its hybrid *Blc. Keowee* (right)

Miniature Display Registration

We’re still hoping a few more of you can create a miniature (16” x 16”) display for our June show, so the deadline for registering for a miniature display has been extended to May 14, the date of our meeting. A miniature display only takes a few orchids and your imagination. If you’re interested, fill out the form that was recently emailed to you, or you can get the form on our website at www.hiloorchidsociety.org/amateur-registration, and mail it in or bring it to the meeting. Mahalo!

Show Committee

The Show Committee will meet on Weds. May 18 at 5:00 pm at the Kamana Senior Center, Room 2. If you’d like to help out with the show, please join us.

Scholarship Deadline Extended

Do you know any students at UH Hilo? Tell them we’re giving away money! Our Scholarship Committee has extended the deadline to apply for the scholarship for the 2016-17 academic year from April 15 to June 1. Please help us spread the word.

The scholarship is \$3,000 for the year and is aimed at UH Hilo students whose future careers will be orchid related, although scholarships can be awarded to students in other areas of science or agriculture. For details and an application form, see www.hiloorchidsociety.org/scholarships

April Members' Choice Awards

Photos by Glory Garner



Left: Hobbyist 1st place: *Lycaste Firebird*, grown by Dana Culleney



Left: Hobbyist 2nd place: *Schoenorchis gemmata*, grown by Glory Kirkland



Right: Hybbyst 3rd place: *Epidendrum (Encyclia) Rioclarense*, grown by Momi Szirom



Left: Commercial 1st place: *Paph. moquettianum*, grown by Malika Orchids



Center: Commercial 2nd place: *Paph. chamberlainianum*, grown by Malika Orchids



Right: Commercial 3rd place: *Paph. esquirelei 'JEM'*, grown by Malika Orchids

Correction: Last month's Commercial 2nd place winner should have been listed as Malika Orchids. We apologize for the error.

April AOS Awards

Photos by Glen Barfield



Top left: *Cattleya walkeriana* 'Sebastian Ferrell' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Orchid Eros

Top right: *Paph.* Delightfully Wood 'Arrogantly Lehua' AM/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids

Right: *Paph.* Macabre Moon 'Lehua's Sepal Price' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Lehua Orchids

Bottom left: *Paph.* Shin-Yi's Pride 'Newman's Badboy' AM/AOS, exhibited by Newman's Nursery

Bottom center: *Paph. kolopakingii* f. *katheriae* 'Green Dragon' AM/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm

Bottom right: *Paph.* St. Swithin 'Eternal Serenity' HCC/AOS, exhibited by Hilo Orchid Farm



The Show is Almost Here



Carnival of Orchids
Hilo Orchid Society
64th Annual Show & Sale
June 3-5, 2016
F 9-6 Sa 9-5 Su 10-2
Edith Kanaka`ole Stadium
430-6653
www.hiloorchidsociety.org

The 64th Hilo Orchid Society Show and Sale, “Carnival of Orchids”, is coming on June 3-5 at the Edith Kanaka`ole Stadium, Hilo.

There are three things that we’re counting on members for:

1. Tickets. We’re hoping you can sell the 15 show tickets you received to friends and neighbors for \$3 each, a bargain price (admission is \$5 at the door), or buy them yourself and give them away. Of course you’re not obligated to buy or sell the tickets, but if you can, it’s a great way to help the Society.

2. Orchids. We’re counting on you to lend us your blooming orchids for our Society exhibit, which will be front-and-center at the show (see article on page 5).

3. Volunteers. We’re counting on volunteers to help out at the show. If you have already volunteered, thank you. We could still use volunteers to help with several jobs, all easy:

- Front Gate: collect people’s tickets as they come in and give them show programs.
- Security: you don’t have to be big and burly. Just ask people not to walk into the exhibits, or check that orchids leaving the show have the little colored dots.
- Silent Auction: watch the silent auction tables and help straighten up if necessary.
- Plant Hotel: hold people’s purchases for them while they continue to enjoy the show.

Here’s what we have planned:

Monday, May 30: Show setup begins.

Tuesday, May 31: 9:00 a.m.–12:00. Bring your orchids to lend to the HOS display.

Thursday, June 2:

- Morning: AOS Judging
- Afternoon: Ribbon judging
- 6:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. Preview Party

Friday, June 3 through Sunday, June 5: The show is open, featuring:

- Dazzling displays of orchids
- Vendor booths tempting you to buy just one more orchid.
- Entertainment featuring a variety of local musicians.
- A fashion show on Saturday featuring Wahine Toa Designs by Nita Pilago.
- Refreshments
- A series of speakers and demos
- A silent auction to raise money for our scholarship fund
- Membership, Sales, and Orchid Society tables, where visitors can buy T-shirts and calendars, ask questions, and join our Society.

Our show can only succeed because Society members volunteer to help. If you’re asked to help out, please say yes. It will only take a couple of hours of your time, and it’ll make you feel good!

Gala Preview Party is June 2



To kick off the orchid show, our friends at the Ku'ikahi Mediation Center are holding a Preview Party from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 2 at the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium. The gala event features refreshments, live music, and orchid viewing and 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 the Ku'ikahi Mediation Center. This non-profit organization 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.

Proceeds of the Silent Auction at the Preview Party benefit the Hilo Orchid Society's Yasuji Takasaki Memorial Scholarship fund, which offers scholarships to deserving students at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

Tickets are \$65, of which \$25 is tax deductible, and can be purchased at: Hilo Coffee Mill (17-995 Volcano Hwy.), Day-Lum Rentals (2 Kamehameha Ave.), The Most Irresistible Shop (256 Kamehameha Ave.), and Ku'ikahi Mediation Center (101 Aupuni St, Suite PH 1014 B-2). Or contact Jenifer at 935-7844 ext 1 or jenifer@hawaiimediation.org.

How to Prepare Your Orchids For the Show

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.

Now is the time to start thinking about it. Here's how:

- Look at what's in bud and 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*.
- 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!

CALENDAR OF ORCHID EVENTS

The following event will be held at the Old Airport Events Pavilion, Kona

May 7	9:00-6:00	Kona Orchid Society Mothers Day Sale
May 8	8:00-4:00	Kona Orchid Society Mothers Day Sale

The following events are held at Kamana Senior Center, Hilo

May 14	1:30	HOS Meeting
	4:00	AOS Judging
May 18	5:00	Show Committee meeting

The following show events will be held at the Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium, Hilo

May 31	9:00-12:00	Bring plants for HOS display
June 2	morning	AOS Judging
June 2	afternoon	Ribbon Judging
June 2	6:00-9:00	Preview Party
June 3	9:00-6:00	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale
June 4	9:00-5:00	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale
June 5	10:00-2:00	Hilo Orchid Show and Sale

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