



# Hilo Orchid Society Newsletter

July  
2023

## In-Person Meeting

Note: the meeting scheduled for Sat., July 8, 2023 will be in-person. There will be no Zoom meeting.

Date: Saturday, July 8, 2023  
Time: **1:30** Informal “talk story”  
**2:00** Meeting starts  
Place: Kamana Senior Center,  
127 Kamana St., Hilo  
Speaker: Tom Mirenda & Larry Kuekes  
Topic: Journey to the Middle of the  
Earth: Orchids in Ecuador

Ecuagenera, the huge orchid growing company in Ecuador, held their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration last month. They invited several prominent people in the orchid world, including our own Tom Mirenda. Before attending the event, Tom and Larry Kuekes went on a tour to see Ecuadorean orchids in the wild.

Ecuador calls itself the “middle of the world” because it’s right on the Equator. Whether it was touring the eastern Andes with mountains, waterfalls, and native orchids such as *Phragmipedium besseae* (at right), or exploring the amazing variety of orchids in the vast greenhouses of Ecuagenera in multiple cities, or eating Ecuadorian food (including guinea pigs, among other things), or the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, decorated with thousands of orchids, or enjoying the company of other orchid fanatics, it was a trip to remember. Tom and Larry will share it all with you at the meeting. Don’t miss it!



## Please Lend Us Your Orchids for the Show

We need your orchids for our HOS orchid show exhibit. (It’s just a loan; you’ll get them back!) The big growers can’t lend us orchids because they have their own displays. We’re counting on the little growers. Even one or two beautiful orchids make a difference, and if enough people bring them, the result will be spectacular!

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.

Bring your orchids to the Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium on **Weds., July 26 between 9:00 and noon**. Plan on picking them up promptly at **1:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 30** when the show closes. Mahalo!

## The Show is Almost Here

The 69<sup>th</sup> Hilo Orchid Society Show and Sale, “Waves of Orchids”, is coming on July 28-30 at the Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium, Hilo.

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

**1. Sell or give away 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 \$6 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. Lend us your orchids.** We’re counting on you to lend us your blooming orchids to help make our Society exhibit the highlight of the show.

**3. Volunteer.** 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! If you’ve already volunteered, thank you!

You can sign up at the meeting or contact Kathy Gollaher at [raiateawoodworks@gmail.com](mailto:raiateawoodworks@gmail.com)

## Waves of Orchids

Our 69th Hilo Orchid Society Show and Sale, “Waves of Orchids,” is almost here! It’s the biggest and best orchid show in the state of Hawai’i. It will take place at Edith Kanaka’ole Stadium, July 28-30. AOS and ribbon judging activities, as well as the Preview Party will kick off the event on Thursday, July 27. Then the show will open to the public, featuring dazzling displays of orchids and vendor booths. Show hours are:

- Friday, July 28,  
9 am–6 pm
- Saturday, July 29,  
9 am–5 pm
- Sunday, July 30,  
10 am–1:30 pm

Show preparations are in full swing. Ellen Train is working hard as our Show Chair, and she has a group of folks on the Show Committee helping to make the show a reality. Here’s what is going on.

**Show Tickets.** Tickets will be available from any member of the Hilo Orchid Society for \$3 if purchased prior to the show. The ticket price at the door will be \$6.

**Judging.** On Thursday, July 27, before the show is open to the public, events begin with AOS judging in the morning and ribbon judging in the afternoon. Ribbon judging will be done by teams of HOS volunteers, awarding 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. Attendees will be able to buy their pick of orchids from show vendors before the show opens.

**HOS Display.** We need volunteers to help with show setup and setting up the HOS exhibit.

Of course, our exhibit will feature wonderful orchids grown by members. If you have some beautiful orchids in bloom at show time, lend them to our display. You will get them back, of course, and you just might win a ribbon or a trophy. Start fertilizing now and as spikes come up, stake them to be their most beautiful. Let’s all help create another award-winning masterpiece for the Hilo Orchid Society!



**T-shirts and more for sale.** We will have T-shirts with the show art (at left) for sale, as well as other items. And our new Orchid Isle 2024 calendars will be for sale.

**Refreshments.** There will be a variety of delicious dishes from food vendors, or you can eat at one of the nearby restaurants.

**Speakers.** We will have a series of talks and demonstrations presented by knowledgeable HOS members throughout the three days of the show. Topics will cover various types of orchids and how to grow them.

**HOS/Membership Table.** This is where visitors can find

out about and join our Society.

**Orchid Doctor.** Julie Goettsch will have a fun Orchid Doctor stand, modeled after Lucy’s “Psychiatric Help 5¢” stand in the Peanuts cartoon, where attendees can get orchid questions answered.

**Will you help?** Putting on a show means taking care of a myriad of tasks, as you can tell from the descriptions of activities above. Volunteers are needed for many tasks at the show, plus setup, take down, creating the HOS exhibit, and other tasks that happen outside of show hours to make the show possible.

Our show can only succeed if Society members are generous enough to volunteer to help. It can be as little as two hours of your time, and you will feel good that our show was a big hit because of you. Get involved and be a part of the Hilo Orchid Society’s signature event!

## June Members Choice

Photos by Kathryn Duval



1<sup>st</sup> place: *Dendrobium densiflorum*, grown by Julie Goettsch



3<sup>rd</sup> place: *Miltonia spectabilis*, grown by Jeff Fendentz



2<sup>nd</sup> place: *Stanhopea tigrina*, grown by Jeff Fendentz



*Cattleya purpurata* h.f. *flamea rubra* 'Benjamin Ferrell' FCC/AOS, grown by Gabe Oliveros



Left: *Cattleya tenebrosa* h.f. *vinicolor* 'Wine & Chocolate' AM/AOS, grown by Island Sun Orchids



Right: *Coelogyne schilleriana* 'Goldilocks' AM/AOS, CCM/AOS, grown by Island Sun Orchids



Left: *Paph.* French Wonder 'Slipper Zone Double Up' HCC/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids  
Right: *Cattleya* Saxe Blue Jewel 'Billy B' AM/AOS, grown by GLA Orchids



*Paph. rothschildianum* 'OrchidFix Bon Chance' AM/AOS, grown by OrchidFix



Left: *Cattleya kerrii* 'Lues Twins' AM/AOS, grown by GLA Orchids

Right: *Paph.* Rollie Wilson 'Golden Scimitar' AM/AOS, grown by Hilo Orchid Farm



Left: *Aliceara* Randi 'Gay' AM/AOS, grown by Okika

Right: *Paph.* Prince Edward of York 'Lehua Who Knows' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids



*Paph.* Oriental Desire 'Slipper Zone Allure' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids



*Cattleya* Cosmic Future 'Lues Lava Burst' HCC/AOS, grown by Greg Leutticke-Archbell



Left: *Cattleya aclandiae* 'Bodacious' AM/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros



Right: *Cattleya purpurata* h.f. *carnea* 'Orchid Eros' HCC/AOS, grown by Orchid Eros



Left: *Paph. druryi* 'Lehua Radiant' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids



Right: *Paph.* Fred's Wonder 'Slipper Zone Cool Pink' AM/AOS, grown by Lehua Orchids

## Hilo Orchid Society Officers and Trustees

President – Karl Mendonca

Vice President – Ben Oliveros 345-1371  
[oliveros@orchideros.com](mailto:oliveros@orchideros.com)

Treasurer – Rick Kelley

Recording Secretary – Lise Dowd [lisedowd@aol.com](mailto:lisedowd@aol.com)

Corresponding Secretary – Larry Kuekes

President-Elect – Ellen Train

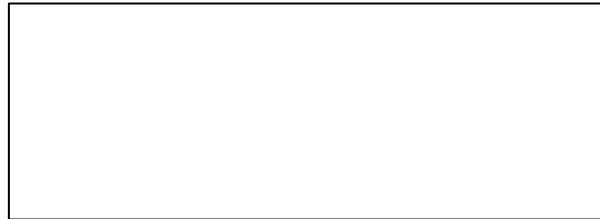
Past President – Tom Miranda [biophiliak@gmail.com](mailto:biophiliak@gmail.com)

Trustee 2022-2023 – Kevin Evans

Trustee 2022-2023 – Sandra Dixon

Trustee 2023-2024 – Rusty Gorton

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