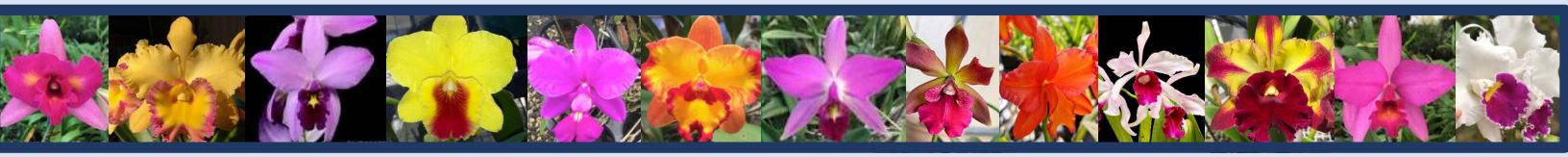

The Honolulu Orchid Society

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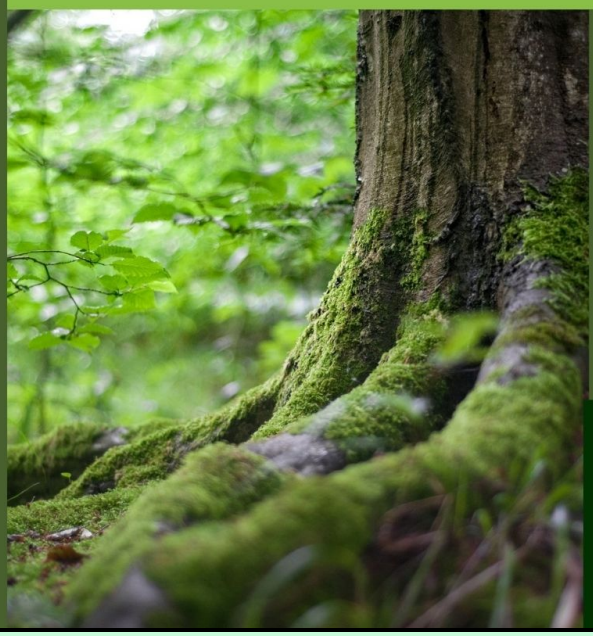
September 2022 Newsletter

Honolulu Orchid Society
September 14, 2022
Meeting via Zoom

"The Canopy Ecology of Epiphytic Orchids in the Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica"

Presentation by Julia Douglas of the University of Hawaii



Julia Douglas (on the right) with colleague Jen climbed trees in the field.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 14, 2022.

Julia Douglas will be joining us live via Zoom from Mexico.

You must register to join the meeting. Register by Tuesday, September 13, 2022. Click HERE to register.

Honolulu Orchid Society General Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, September 14, 2022
Time/Place: Beginning at 7:00 p.m. through Zoom Video Conference
Program: "The Canopy Ecology of Epiphytic Orchids in the Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica"
Speaker: Julia Douglas

Two years ago University of Hawaii botany graduate student **Julia Douglas** spoke to the Honolulu Orchid Society on her orchid conservation work in Mexico. We are pleased and excited to have her back to present her research on the canopy ecology of epiphytic orchids in Costa Rica's Osa Peninsula. **Julia will be joining us via Zoom from Mexico**.

The **Osa Peninsula** is one the largest tracts of lowland wet tropical forests on the Pacific coast of Central America. Described as one of the most biodiverse places on Earth, the forest is also a hotspot for orchid diversity. Julia's research focused on answering the following two questions: (1) what is the species composition of the epiphytic orchid communities? and (2) what are the environmental drivers to epiphytic orchid abundance and diversity in the canopy? In the summer of 2021, Julia climbed 35 emergent canopy trees using single rope ascension techniques and did a thorough survey of orchids in the canopy. Her presentation will share the method of tree climbing, introduce some of the common orchid species of the Osa Peninsula, and discuss microniches and environmental variables which determine the composition of orchid communities living in the trees.

You must register to attend the meeting. Register in advance for this meeting by Tuesday, September 13, 2022. Click on the Poster above or **HERE** to register. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The meeting is open to the public.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Mahalo to all who attended last month's virtual membership meeting "**Orchids of the North Star State: Native Orchids of Minnesota"** presented by **Jed Smith** through Zoom. Thank you**, Jed** for sharing your presentation of the vast amount of unusual orchid species plants growing in Minnesota. It was truly amazing to see all the blooming flowers and growth. Your knowledge is appreciated. Thank you, **Kate Leonard and Ian Sandison** for donating seven Phragmipediums and **Melvin Waki** for donating eight "spider" orchids (Brassia warscewiczii 'Waki') for the plant giveaway prior to the end of the August 2022 General Membership meeting.

Mahalo **Roy Andrade** for your generous monetary donation to HOS and also for being our first membership renewal for 2023.

Welcome New Members

We welcome our newest Members **Lynda Takara, Kenneth Kwock and Richard Kudo** of Honolulu. Thank you for joining.

Honolulu Orchid Society Orchid Show in October

The Honolulu Orchid Society Show is back after a 3 year absence. **Kathy Sakuda** and **Adam Almeida** are co-chairing the Show. The Show will be at the Washington Middle School Cafeteria. Ample parking is available with easy access from South King Street, just before the school's basketball court area that is next to Zippy's Restaurant. This year's theme **"Return of the Orchids"** was thought of by **Lisa Abbott**.

Help us get the word out about the show. The show is **FREE, FREE, FREE!**

HOS will be putting up a floor display featuring blooming orchid plants from the membership. **Adam Almeida** will chair the display setup which will begin at 9:00 AM on Thursday, October 6, 2022. Members should bring their blooming plants to the Washington Middle School cafeteria no later than 11:00 AM. The goal is to complete the display by 3:00 PM on Thursday. Besides your blooming orchids, the Society could use greeneries to fill-in open spaces in the display and props to accentuate the display theme of "Return of the Orchids". More importantly, we can use your physical labor and time to help create, set up and break down our display at the show. Be sure to tag your trays, loose pots and plants with your name so you get them back.

The HOS Country Store will be reopening at the Show. Help us stock our Country Store. We are in need of **Baked Goods** (assorted cookies, breads, brownies, snacks, etc.), **Jams & Jellies, Fresh Fruits/Vegetables** in abundance (lemons, limes, starfruit, squash, herbs, etc.), **Arts and Crafts**, **Usable "White Elephant" goods, vases, glassware, orchid books**, etc. The Garden Section needs donations of **plants** (herbs, anything that grows .....but please no weeds.....), **clay, cement, ceramic pots**, **recycled pots, planters, plant hooks, gardening tools, other related orchid items**, etc. Other "treasures" you want to donate is sooooo....totally welcomed! Please pre-price your donations if possible. If you are unsure of prices, the country store volunteers will do the pricing. To make things go a little smoother, please prepare an itemized list of your donations with your name, mailing address and phone number for turn in at the Country Store. Members generosity in this fundraising project is greatly appreciated. **ALL PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT HOS PROGRAMS, MISSION AND EDUCATION.**

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP TO WORK AT SHOW. Members and friends and family too.....who are willing to volunteer your services for at least one shift of work during the show to help make "Return of the Orchids" show a BLAST and ever so SPECIAL! The Volunteer Orchid Show Worker's Sign-Up Sheets are ready and waiting.

Since we have not been able to meet in person at our General Member Meetings, volunteers PLEASE contact **Carol De Witt** at phone 808 597-4087 or email her at seabreeze808@outlook.com to sign up for working at the Show. She will accept calls until 9:30 pm.

We need help on:
Wednesday, October 5, from 8:30 am to around 12 noon to help with Pre-Show Set up of the cafeteria.
Thursday, October 6, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm to help set up and create our large floor display. Plant registration starts at 9:00 am and closes at 3:00 pm. All plants must be registered that are going to be placed in the display.
Shifts on
Friday, 10-7-22 are from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm (first shift) and **from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm (second shift); Saturday, 10-8-22 are from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm (first shift) and 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm (second shift).** Saturday's second shift includes helping with breakdown and clean-up-----the show closes at 4:00 pm.
2 Entrances/Exits
Host & Hostess Security
Hospitality
HOS Country Store
Plant Holding Area

Lunch will be provided for all who volunteer to work at the show. Workers report in at least 30 minutes prior to start of shift. Morning shift workers will eat when called during their shift and afternoon shift workers will eat prior to start of their shift.

Reminder to all who help with the breakdown - - ALL PROPS used in the display belong to whomever brought them and are not free for the taking. Owner's name should be on items, but if there is no name on the items--it is not free for the taking by others. So please kokua and be considerate and not take them.

Orchidist of the Year

Time sure flies. We need to start thinking……. Do you know who in our current membership should be Orchidist of the Year? This award is to recognize and honor a member for outstanding and unselfish service and valuable contributions to the Society. This award can be presented to a member only once. **Nominations are now being accepted for 2022 Orchidist of the Year. Nominations need to be submitted by Monday, October 31, 2022, to give the HOS Board ample time to review and make a selection on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.** Submit written justification that showcase the individual's outstanding attributes that qualifies the person as Orchidist of the Year 2022. **Mail** to Honolulu Orchid Society, P O Box 558, Honolulu HI 96809-0558 Attn: Orchidist of the Year; or **email** to our President, Brad Lau at bradlau23@gmail.com.

HOS T-Shirts and Polo Shirts

PRE-ORDERED Honolulu Orchid Society Shirts will be distributed at HOS Orchid Show. When the shirts are ready, those who ordered will be informed to pick up their order. Contact Kathy Sakuda at 808 258-6511 or email her at ksakuda665@gmail.com for additional information.

Mark Your Calendar

September Board of Trustees Meeting. The HOS Board will meet through Zoom video conference on **Tuesday, September 13, 2022**, at 7:00 PM.

October 2022 General Membership Meeting. The October 2022 General Membership Meeting will take place virtually through Zoom on **Wednesday, October 12, 2022**, beginning at 7:00 pm. Guest Speaker and Program – to be announced.

HOS Official Website

Visit the HOS website (**www.honoluluorchidsociety.org**) for periodic updates. Subscribe to the HOS website by inputting your email address in the subscribe block. When you subscribe, you will get immediate notification of any new posts on the website. Members may contribute to the site by sending their info to hos@honoluluorchidsociety.org.

Orchid Judging

The **Honolulu Orchid Society's monthly orchid judging** was conducted at the Lanakila Senior Center on Saturday, August 13, 2022. Eight plants were registered for judging. All the plants were screened and three were judged and received awards by the Judging Team. The awarded plants are shown below.

The next judging session will be held at the Lanakila Senior Center on Saturday, September 10, 2022. HOS members, members of all other Orchid Societies and Clubs, and orchid hobbyists on Oahu are encouraged to bring their blooming orchid plants for judging. You do not need to be a member of HOS to have your plants judged.

Plants need to be dropped off between 9:30 AM and 10:00 AM to be registered. Call Mel Waki at (808) 391-0144 if you have any questions.

There will be no judging on Saturday, October 8, 2022 at the Lanakila Senior Center. The judging session will instead be held on Thursday, October 6, 2022 at the Honolulu Orchid Society's 2022 Annual Orchid Show at the Washington Middle School Cafeteria. All orchid plants in the displays (floor displays, table top displays and individual displays) will be eligible for merit awards and for trophy judging.

Honolulu Orchid Society
Merit Awards
Judged at Lanakila Senior Center
August 13, 2022

Award No 2022-58
Rlc. Volcano Island 'Volcano Queen'
CR HOS (78.8 Pts.)
Owner: Nuuanu Orchids

Award No 2022-59
Rlc. Memoria Budyanto Setiawan 'Gran Splendor'
AM HOS (80.2 Pts.)
Owner: Scot & Karen Mitamura

Award No 2022-60
Rlc. Hsinying Williette 'No. 6'
AM HOS (81.8 Pts.)
Owners: Scot & Karen Mitamura

Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

Summer is an important time for our orchids. Many of them are in various stages of growth and like everyone else many of them are outgrowing their pots and need to be re-potted. I try to put a lot of emphasis on re-potting during this time.

I know a lot of us do not like to re-pot, but it is something I love to do and it is great for the orchids. There are several reasons that most orchids should be re-potted every two years, and with some, even annually. In time, several detrimental things happen inside of the pots that we cannot see.

Organic based medias start out being dry or hydrophobic. As they decompose, they become wetter or hydroscopic, eventually turning mushy, creating an environment that fosters root rot. Humic acid is formed, and the pH of the media begins to lower (become more acid), eventually making your media toxic to the orchid. Often Snow Mold begins infecting the organic media. In this case the fungus roots (mycelia) will make the media hydrophobic drying out the orchid. Even if an inorganic media is used, the orchid will still need to be re-potted, maybe not as often but it will still need to be re-potted.

With each new growth, new roots are formed and soon the pot is full of roots and no airspace. Old roots begin to die off and decompose, so we are back to the toxic media again.

Oh, don't forget the salt! Every time we water there is salt in the water, sodium levels are rising as we start to deplete our island's freshwater lens. Fertilizers too are in a form of a soluble salt, so every time you fertilize, you are shaking a saltshaker over your orchids. Heavy hand watering, rainwater, and reverse osmosis water will help to flush some of the salts in your media, but it can't get rid of it all. So, in time, we are back to the toxic media.

With all this care we have been giving our orchids, they should be getting really big and start to outgrow their small pots. So just like me, I need to get larger, more comfortable clothes. Once I see the orchid coming out of its pot, I put a high priority on re-potting it. Sometimes I just upgrade into a larger pot if the roots and the media look good. If there are a lot of dead roots and the media looks bad, the orchid gets divided. Sometimes I may only remove the old media and put the orchid back in the same pot.

The key to success in re-potting is to re-pot when the roots are active. At the first signs of new roots emerging from the newest growth, this is the best time to re-pot, even if flower buds are forming. The two photos are depicting a cattleya with emerging new roots growing over the edge of the pot. In this instance I made a front five bulb (pseudo bulb or stem, joined together by a rhizome) division and I put the orchid back into the same pot, giving me room for two additional growths, which is the perfect pot size.

Continued on the next page →

*(This article appeared in the August 2022 Newsletter of the **Windward Orchid Society** and is reprinted with the approval of **Scot Mitamura** and the **Windward Orchid Society.**)*

Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

Continued……

To ensure a quick recovery, I try to make a minimum of a three-bulb division. Never over pot an orchid. A small orchid in a large pot will take too long for the media to dry, and the orchid will get root rot.

If you are in a wet area, use very little to no media, hang your orchids, or put them in baskets, this will ensure that the orchids will dry between waterings. After re-potting an orchid, water it after three or four days, allowing the cut ends to heal.

Re-potting on a regular basis will keep your orchids strong, allowing them to increase in size every year, giving you increasing numbers of flowers. Now you no longer need to be afraid to re-pot!

Aloha,
Scot

Recipe of the Month

*(*fm life-in-the-lofthouse.com*)*

Supreme Pizza Casserole

Prep Time: 20 minutes **Cook Time**: 25 minutes **Servings**: 8

Ingredients

- 1 pound penne pasta
- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 2 Tablespoons dried minced onion (or 1/2 cup freshly chopped yellow onion)
- 1/2 Tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 32 ounces pizza sauce or marinara sauce (I like the Contadina brand of pizza sauce)
- 2 cups shredded Mozzarella cheese
- 16 slices pepperoni
- 1 small green bell pepper, seeded then sliced
- 1 can (4 ounces) sliced black olives

Instructions

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spray a 9x13-inch baking dish with non-stick spray. Set aside. Cook penne pasta to al dente according to package directions; drain water then set aside.

In a large pot, cook and crumble ground beef until no longer pink. Drain any grease. Add onion, garlic, Italian seasoning, and pizza sauce. Stir well to combine then remove from heat.

Add cooked, drained penne to the beef mixture. Stir to combine then pour mixture into the prepared baking dish, spreading out evenly. Sprinkle the shredded Mozzarella cheese all over pasta, then top cheese with pepperoni, sliced bell pepper and olives. Cover pan with foil and bake for 25 minutes or until hot and bubbly. Carefully remove pan from oven, then carefully remove foil. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Enjoy!