

The Honolulu Orchid Society

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FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER



Vanda ampullacea 'Toshie Abe' CCM HOS
Exhibited by Calvin & Sherry Abe
Displayed at the Manoa Orchid Show, May 4, 2018

Newsletter Editor: Carol De Witt Contributing Editors: Brad Lau, Linda Inouye and Jed Smith. Layout: Mel Waki. Contributing Photographers: Mel Waki, Matthew McKnight III, and Emily Inouye Lau.

Email: hos@honoluluorchidsociety.org

HONOLULU ORCHID SOCIETY (HOS) FEBRUARY 2024 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2024
Time/Place: 7:00 to 9:00 PM, Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria (Doors open at 6:30 PM)
Program: "Orchid Fleck Virus"
Speaker: Dr. Michael Melzer

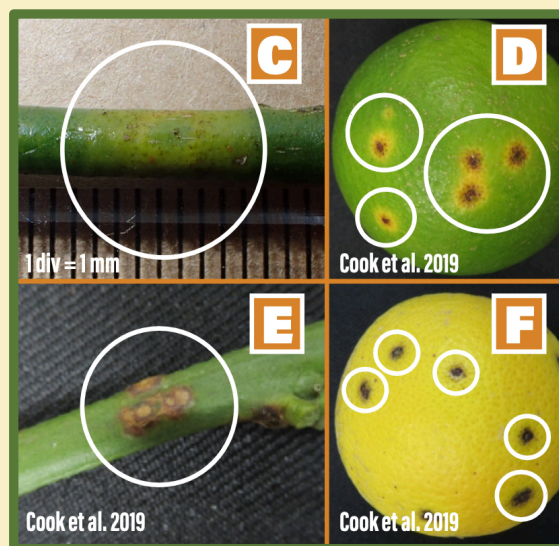
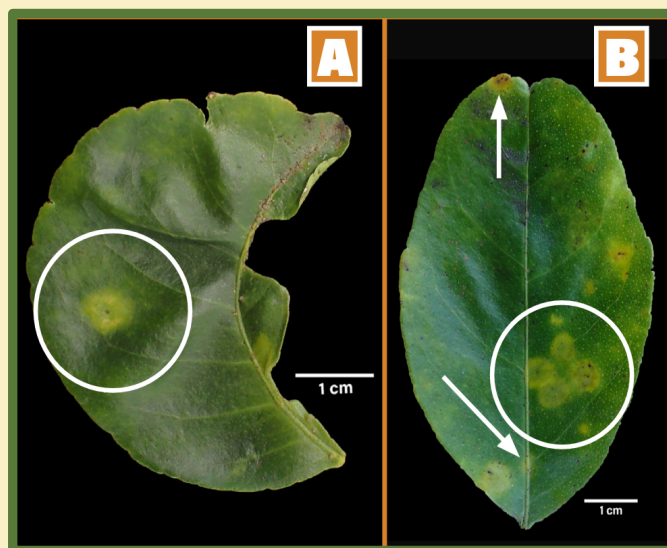
Orchid fleck virus (OFV) causing yellow lesions on leaves and stems was found infecting rough lemon and mandarin orange trees in February 2020 on Hawai'i Island. The virus causes yellow or black leaf lesions on a wide variety of hosts.

Dr. Michael Melzer from the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) will give an update on OFV and its impact to various agricultural products in Hawaii including orchids.

At the meeting the Society will continue its popular **Plant Culture Table** competition with two categories of growers: **Novice Category** (up to 4 years of growing orchids) and **Masters Category** (more than 4 years of growing orchids). Members are encouraged to bring their plants to the Culture Table 10 to 15 minutes before the meeting starts. Prior to the Refreshment break, attendees will be given the opportunity to view the plants and vote on the plant in each category they liked the best based on the flower appearance, fragrance, uniqueness or overall plant growth.

Great Silent Auction Will Be Back

The Honolulu Orchid Society's **Great Silent Auction** will be held on March 13, 2024, at the Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria. Members are encouraged to start grooming their plants and consider donating a few for the auction. Last year we enjoyed excellent plants donated by members. We appreciate your generous help to make our auction a success.



Changes to 2024 Board of Trustees

Regretfully 3rd Vice President **Rylan Chong** and Trustee (term ending 2025) **Ben Kodama, Jr.**, resigned from their positions due to other commitments. We thank **Rylan** and **Ben** for their dedicated service to HOS.

At a Board of Trustees meeting on January 16, 2024, **Matthew McKnight III** was chosen the 3rd Vice President. The Executive Board later approved **Josie Gesteuyala** to serve as a Trustee to 2025. **Matthew** was a trustee (term ending 2025) while **Josie** is new to the trustee position. We thank both for accepting their new roles.

Two trustee (term ending 2025) positions are currently vacant. If anyone is interested in learning about service on the HOS board, please email Brad Lau at bradlau23@gmail.com.

Mini Country Store

The Mini Country Store will reopen during the February General Membership Meeting. We like trying different food preparations and really encourage voluntary donations from the membership and friends. Donated items need to be brought before 7:00 PM for pricing and set up by the Country Store workers. They will accept donations of baked goods, snacks, jams, jellies, fruits and fresh vegetables. Items should be individually packaged and wrapped.

Items may be purchased prior to the start of the meeting and during the refreshment break. We encourage the membership and friends present to patronize the Country Store. Only cash and checks will be accepted. All proceeds from the country store sales will be used for the HOS educational program. Your support is greatly appreciated. Please bring your family and friends. See you soon.

Welcome New Members

- **Christina Meller, Honolulu**
- **Emily Inouye Lau, Mililani**
- **Leanne Takara, Honolulu**
- **Karen Mitamura, Kaneohe**
- **Tessie Miller, Honolulu**

Welcome to the Society. We look forward to meeting you in person and seeing you at our events.

Monetary Donations

- **Francis Okimoto**
- **Bradley Lau & Linda Inouye**
- **Jean Sun Shaw**
- **Greg Silver**
- **Angela Presher**
- **Hongwei Li**

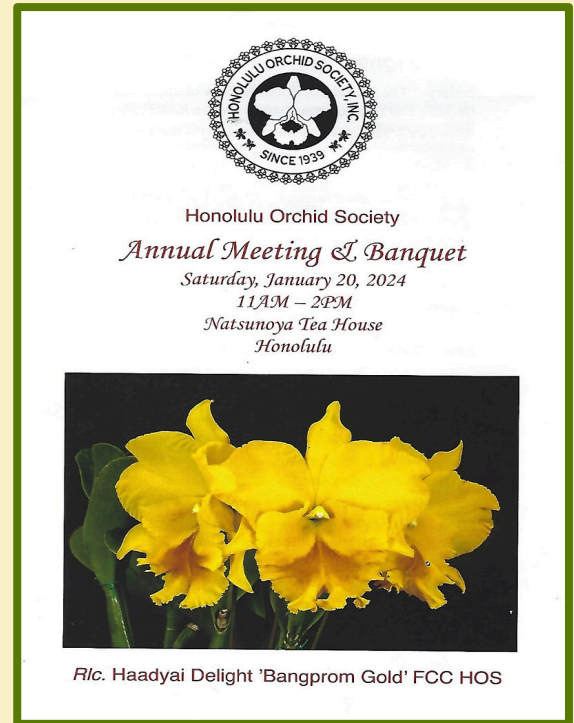
Thank you for your generous monetary donations.

Recap of Annual Meeting and Installation Banquet

Mahalo to the members, guests, family, and friends who attended the Annual Meeting and Installation Banquet at the Natsunoya Tea House on Saturday, January 13, 2024. Seventy-six people attended the banquet, most of whom arrived at the Tea House early to enjoy the fellowship and pupus and desserts brought by several generous members. **Adam Almeida**, the



Master of Ceremonies, called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM and had members introduce their guests and new members introduce themselves. Among the attendees were members **Willis and Dora Hauser** from San Antonio, Texas. Special HOS guests **Michael Harano** and **Suzanne Chun-Oakland** and **Mike Oakland** were also introduced.



Adam Almeida gave the invocation and directed the audience in groups to proceed to the buffet table. Everyone enjoyed the lunch buffet featuring shrimp and vegetable tempura, hibachi chicken, shoyu pork, and steamed fish. A vegetarian bento featuring sushi, cold somen and namasu was enjoyed by those ordering the special meal.

MC Adam Almeida reconvened the meeting at 12:30 PM and called on **President Brad Lau** to give his annual report. **Brad** presented a slide show to highlight all of the Society's monthly programs, events and activities for the past year. The presentation gave a very thorough review of the Society's accomplishments.





Brad distributed the following donations for 2024: \$3,000 to Washington Middle School which was accepted by School Principal **Michael Harano** (left photo above). \$1,000 to the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center which was accepted by the Center's Program Director **Suzanne Chun-Oakland** (center photo above). \$500 to the Dr. Inge White Scholarship Endowment Fund which was accepted by **Dr. Inge White** (right photo above).

In Treasurer **Jackie Lai**'s absence, 1st Vice-President **Melvin Waki** read Jackie's Treasurer's report which indicated that the Society was financially very healthy with more than \$88,000 in the treasury at year's end.

Brad Lau recognized the outgoing **2023 Board** for their unselfish services and introduced the **incoming 2024 Officers and Trustees**. **Roy Tokunaga** then installed the incoming 2024 officers and trustees who all promised to uphold the Society's Constitution and serve HOS honestly.



2024 Board of Trustees. Front Row: Trustee **Linda Inouye**, Trustee **Jo Ann Higuchi**, Trustee **Adam Almeida**, 3rd Vice President **Matthew McKnight III**, Trustee **Jed Smith**, Trustee **Charlotte Yamamoto** and Trustee **Marisa Maemori**. Top Row: Trustee **Robert Higuchi**, 1st Vice-President **Melvin Waki**, Trustee **Josie Gesteuyala**, Trustee **Sandie Torigoe**, 2nd Vice-President **Katherine Sakuda**, Trustee **Lynda Takara**, Recording Secretary **Dr. Hongwei Li**, Corresponding Secretary **Carol De Witt** and President **Brad Lau**. Missing is Treasurer **Jackie Lai**.

Brad continued to share his thoughts and hopes for the upcoming new year in his President's Message. He presented **Special Recognition Awards** to **Ben Kodama, Jr., Roy Tokunaga, Kate Leonard** and **Ian Sandison, Kathy Sakuda, and Melvin Waki** for their years of outstanding contributions to the Society. They received gift cards and a plant. **Brad** mentioned that the **2023 Orchidist of the Year** will be announced at the February General Membership meeting.

1st Vice-President Mel Waki presented his third annual **Attaboy and Attagirl Recognition Awards**. The **Attaboy Recognition Award** was presented to **Brad Lau**



for his untiring dedication to the Society and for serving as President for six consecutive years and going on to a record seven years. The **Attagirl Recognition Award** was presented to **Carol De Witt** for her involvement as the Society's Correspondence Secretary, the editor of the HOS Newsletter, the Chair of the Service Committee and almost everything else that the Society does. Both recipients received a certificate and a blooming orchid plant from Mel's collection.

MC Adam Almeida closed the formal meeting at 1:40 PM by thanking **Walter Hiraishi, Roy Tokunaga, Melvin Waki, Kate Leonard, Ian Sandison** and **Calvin Kumano** for their plant donations. He also acknowledged that orchid plants were purchased from **Winning Orchids** of Hilo Hawaii and **Calvin Kumano**.

Special thanks to the following who brought pupus and desserts to the banquet: **Lynda & Russell Takara** – chi chi dango and arare; **JoAnn & Bob Higuchi** – brownie bites with almonds; **Sandie & Karen Torigoe** – cheese and crackers; **Walter & Ruby Hiraishi** - taco bean dip with tortilla chips; **Kathy Sakuda** – assorted bagged chips; **Carol De Witt** – pistachio nuts, tapioca dessert with fruits and party favors of Meiji Hello Panda Chocolate; and **Marisa Maemori** – Andes Mint Chocolates. Thanks go to **Kathy Sakuda** and her helpers **Vivian Hee, JoAnn Higuchi** and **Ruby Hiraishi** for setting up and manning the pupu and dessert tables. Also, thank you to **Emily Inouye Lau** and **Matthew McKnight III** for taking photos of the banquet.

Thank you **Adam Almeida**, for being the emcee at the banquet. Special thanks to **Carol De Witt** who received and registered all who attended the banquet.

The banquet closed with the give-away of the plants that were purchased and donated. Most of the plants were blooming. **Brad Lau** assisted by **Carol De Witt** called out the names by random draw. Each attendee received at least four plants. The plants were delivered to the winners by the members of the Board of Trustees. Plant trays to hold the plants were donated by **Roy Tokunaga**. **June Yokomoto** was the grand prize winner (see photo on page 7, upper right corner). Everyone left the Natsunoya Tea House at 2:30 PM with smiles on their faces.



More Photos from the Banquet



Vegetarian Bento



Honolulu Orchid Society Judging in January 2024

Saturday, January 13, Lanakila Senior Center. Nine plants were registered for judging at the Lanakila Senior Center. All of the plants were screened. Five plants were judged and awarded. One of the plants received two awards. The awarded plants are shown below as Award Nos. 2024-01 through 2024-06.

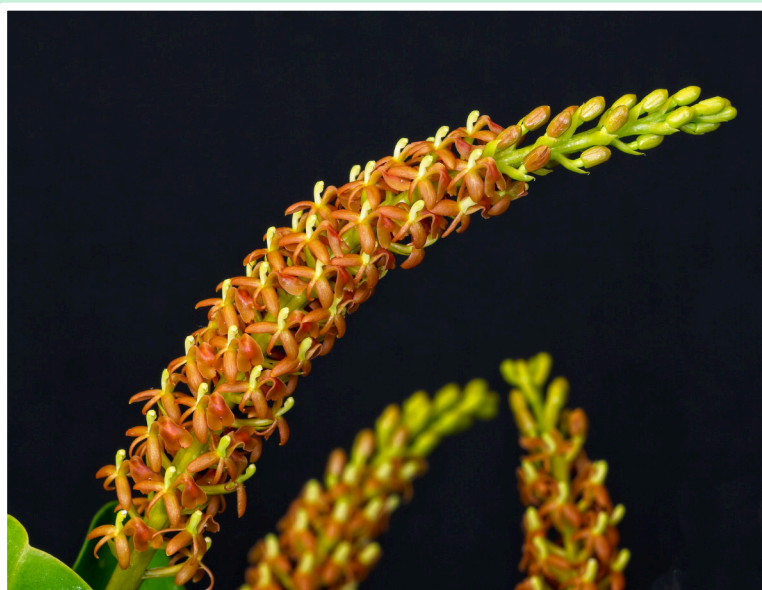
There was no Aiea Orchid Club meeting or judging at Aiea in January.

All Award photos and descriptions for 2024 and prior years are available on the [Award Gallery](#) of the HOS Website.

The **next HOS Judging session will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024**, at the Lanakila Senior Center. Anyone can bring their plants for judging between 9:30 AM and 10:00 AM. You do not have to be a member of HOS to have your plants judged.



Award No. 2024-01
Lip. grossa 'Jill' CCM HOS (85.6 Pts.)
Owner: Jed Smith



Award No. 2024-02
Lip. grossa 'Jill' AM HOS (85.2 Pts.)
Owner: Jed Smith



Award No. 2024-03
Rlc. Toshie's Magic 'Doris' CR HOS
(79.0 Pts.)
Owner: Jan Takamiya



Award No. 2024-04
Coel. wenzelii h.f. flavum 'Walby'
CCM HOS (82.4 Pts.)
Owners: Walter & Ruby Hiraishi



Award No. 2024-05
Den. Little Norman 'Kahalu'u
Purple Love'
CR HOS (78.6 Pts.)
Owner: Josie Gesteuyala



Award No. 2024-06
Rlc. Burdekin Wonder 'Lake Land'
AM HOS (80.2 Pts.)
Owners: Scot & Karen Mitamura

HOS Membership

2023 membership expired on December 31, 2023. 2024 membership renewals and new memberships are now being accepted. All memberships will be good until December 31, 2024. We thank all those who have renewed or have become a new member of HOS. Members who do not renew by March 31, 2024 will have their names removed from HOS' roster and will no longer receive current HOS news.

We encourage people to renew or join online using the membership portal on the Honolulu Orchid Society website. The portal accepts credit card payment for membership dues. Click [HERE](#) to go to the HOS membership join/renew portal.

If you prefer to mail in your membership dues, you may do so using the application form at this [LINK](#). Complete the application form and mail with your check made payable to Honolulu Orchid Society to HOS Membership Committee, P. O. Box 558, Honolulu HI 96809-0558.

Calendar of Events for February 2024

- **Saturday, February 10, 10:00 AM**
HOS Orchid Judging, Lanakila Senior Center
Plant registration: 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM
- **Tuesday, February 13, 7:00 PM**
HOS Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom
- **Wednesday, February 14, 7:00 PM**
HOS General Membership Meeting
Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria
Doors open at 6:30 PM
- **Monday, February 26, 2024, 7:30 PM**
HOS Judging at Aiea Orchid Club Meeting
Plant registration: 6:45 PM to 7:15 PM

Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

Did you know our official winter just started, in fact December 21, was the start of our winter. It is the shortest day of the year and each day from then on will get longer, yay!!!. I hope you have all been adjusting your watering schedule and are not getting any Phytophthora or Black Rot. My areas that are on irrigation have been turned off after the first week of November and I have only been hand watering the dry areas as needed. At Foster Gardens we have been getting nightly showers keeping the orchids way too wet. Fortunately, my media is holding up and still draining well with all the Styrofoam I have been using on the bottom and sides of the pot. So far so good, no Black Rot. I have also been mixing in fungicide with my insecticide to prevent the fungal outbreak. Fungicides work their best when used preventively and not as well curatively. So, I made it a point to start adding it early before the rains started.

This year, I had really bad experiences with the flower orders from the Big Island. FedEx missed a couple of overnight deliveries and some boxes were left unopened for an extra day. Normally, I always open the boxes ASAP, for several reasons. The orchids need lots of air, and the longer they are not opened the chances for damage becomes greater. Ethylene gas can buildup in the boxes causing the flower buds to abort and the leaves to yellow. Fungal spots can appear on the buds, and especially bad in the winter months when the plants are shipped out too wet. This is what happened and even though I opened the box when I received it, it was already too late. The leaves were all yellowing and the flower buds started to get black spots on them. Soon these spots grew into each other and the flowers began to rot away. Total disaster!!! Even though I kept the flowers in a covered area through the rains, the humidity was so high, the fungus spread to the other plants, and now has set into my flowering greenhouse. In hindsight, I should have separated the orders to avoid any cross contamination. A note for anyone ordering plants, make sure you have an adequate area set up with good sunlight, air movement, and rain protection. Have enough trays to separate the plants, placing them in every other hole in the trays. This will allow for sunlight and air circulation so the orchids can bloom well. It is also a good idea to stake up the spikes, so that the flowers will arrange well. And then adjust the stakes as the flowers begin to open. Ordering orchids is fun and exciting when things go right, but when things go wrong, it can be a costly disaster. So always be prepared for the worst and sometimes you need to make the best of it.

Aloha, Scot

This article appeared in the January 2024 Newsletter of the Windward Orchid Society and is reprinted with the approval of Scot Mitamura and the Windward Orchid Society.

Recipe of the Month

Tapioca Dessert with Fruits

by *Dorothy Nakama* (HOS Member)

This is the dessert that was brought to the Installation Banquet at the Natsunoya Tea House. If you like Tapioca, you will like this. It is very refreshing and delicious.

Ingredients

- 1 cup small tapioca pearls
- 7 cups water
- 1 ½ cup sugar
- 1 can (13.5 oz) coconut milk
- 3 cans Shirakiku mixed fruit with natadecoco, drained
- 1 can lychee fruit, drained, cut in fourth
- 1 bottle sweet coconut gel, drained



Directions

In a large 8-quart pot, boil water. Gently stir tapioca pearls into boiling water. Stir occasionally to keep pearls from sticking. Boil for 20 minutes until pearls are translucent. Turn heat off. Cover pot, remove from heat and let it sit for 30 minutes. Add sugar and stir into tapioca until dissolved. Set aside and let cool. (Cooling off will take 1-2 hours) When cool, add the coconut milk and mix well. Add drained fruit and coconut gel to tapioca and mix gently to combine. Refrigerate before serving.

Carol De Witt. suggestion – save the juice liquid from one can of the mixed fruit with natadecoco. Add the liquid as needed if you feel it's a little “dry” when you add the drained fruit and coconut gel to the tapioca mixture and combining it.