

# The Honolulu Orchid Society

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## JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER



Honolulu Orchid Society Display  
Best Guest Display 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
2025 Aiea Orchid Club Show  
Photo by Jan Takamiya

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Kathy Sakuda



# HONOLULU ORCHID SOCIETY JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Date:** Wednesday, July 9, 2025

**Time/Place:** 7:00 PM (doors open at 6:30 PM), Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria


**Program:** *Classic Cattleyas: The Basics of Judging the Labiata-type Cattleyas*

**Presented by:** Dr. Leslie Ee

Born in Borneo, **Dr. Ee** was raised around orchids his entire life by his grandmother and mother, both of whom treasured local orchids. They taught **Dr. Ee** how to grow and flower them at a young age, and he never looked back since. **Dr. Ee** has since grown many varieties over 30 years, but his favorites are Cattleya species, Paphiopedilum species, novelty Phalaenopsis, and miniatures, with a few botanical varieties thrown in. At present **Dr. Ee** has over 500 plants, a majority of them selected and heirloom Cattleya species, and three orchid tanks, including a cool tank with Dendrobium cuthbertsoniis. **Dr. Ee** has travelled the world to attend orchid shows and nurseries. He is an American Orchid Society Associate Judge with the Toronto judging center as well as President of the Canadian Orchid Congress. He is committed to the sharing of orchid knowledge and conservation efforts of local orchids around the world. Please welcome **Dr. Ee** at Wednesday's meeting.

The **Plant Culture Table** will be open for the July meeting. Members are encouraged to bring their blooming orchids to the meeting to share with the audience. As in the past, plants on the Culture Table will be divided into the **Novice Category** (up to 4 years of growing orchids) and the **Master's Category** (more than 4 years of growing orchids). The audience will be given the opportunity to view the plants and vote on the plant in each category they liked best based on flower appearance, fragrance, overall plant growth or uniqueness. Registration of plants for the **Plant Culture Table** is from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm.

The **HOS Mini Country Store** will be open for the July meeting. This will be the last time the country store will be open at the General Membership meetings for 2025. The Country Store will reopen at the Honolulu Orchid Society's 86th Annual Orchid Show and Plant Sale on October 10-11, 2025 at the Washington Middle School Cafeteria. So, let's go

A promotional poster for the Honolulu Orchid Society July Meeting. The poster has a dark background with a yellow border. At the top left is the society's logo. The title "Honolulu Orchid Society July Meeting" is in white. Below it, the program title "Classic Cattleyas: The Basics of Judging the Labiata-type Cattleyas" is in white. To the right is a circular portrait of Dr. Leslie Ee, a man wearing a baseball cap. Below the portrait, his name and title are listed. At the bottom, a yellow semi-circle contains the date and time: "WEDNESDAY JULY 9, 2025 MEETING STARTS 7:00 PM". Below this, the location "LANAKILA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA 717 N. KUAKINI STREET" is listed. At the very bottom, it says "OPEN TO THE PUBLIC". On the right side, there is a website link: "Visit our website www.honoluluorchidsociety.org".

 Honolulu Orchid Society  
July Meeting

"Classic Cattleyas:  
The Basics of  
Judging the  
Labiata-type  
Cattleyas"

**WEDNESDAY  
JULY 9, 2025  
MEETING STARTS 7:00 PM**

**LANAKILA ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL CAFETERIA  
717 N. KUAKINI STREET**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

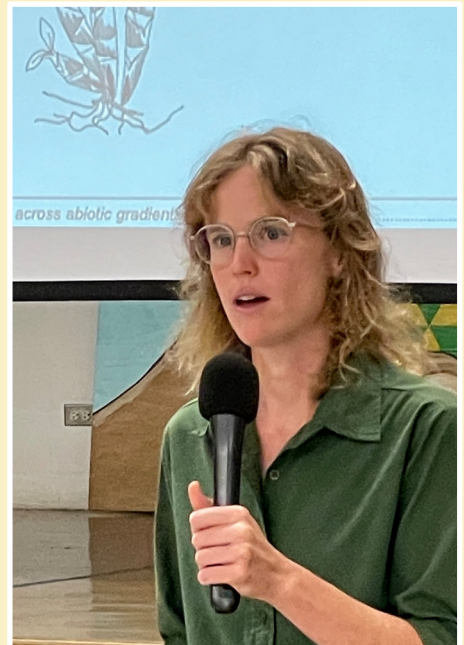
**Presentation by  
Dr. Leslie Ee**  
Orchid Grower, American  
Orchid Society Judge, World  
Traveler, President of the  
Canadian Orchid Congress

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out with a “bang” and fill the Country Store with goodies to sell. Co-chairs **JoAnn Higuchi** and **Kathy Sakuda** will gladly accept donations of baked goods, snacks, onofoods, jams, jellies, fruits, and vegetables. Food items must be individually packaged or wrapped. Please bring your items to the cafeteria by 6:30 pm to set up. All items will be priced by the Country Store workers. The **Mini Country Store** will be open for business prior to the meeting and during the refreshment break. We encourage the membership and friends to patronize the Country Store. Only cash and checks will be accepted for payment.

## **Mahalo Nui Loa**

Mahalo to all who attended last month’s general membership meeting. Thank you, **Dr. Julia Douglas, PhD.**, for your presentation on “Niche Partitioning of Epiphytic Orchids in the Osa Peninsula Lowland Forest Canopy (Costa Rica)”. After sharing the initial results of your project with the Honolulu Orchid Society in 2022, it was enlightening to hear your final analysis of the factors that shape epiphytic orchid distributions in their natural habitats. By the way, congratulations on successfully completing your doctoral degree and graduating from the Botany program at the University of Hawaii.



Mahalo to the following members and friends who brought in a great assortment of food and desserts to share with those in attendance at the meeting: **Charlotte Yamamoto** – chicken salad sandwiches; **Carol De Witt** – Honolulu Cookies Guava Bites; **Jackie Lai** – boiled soy beans; **Karen Nagamine** – watermelon; **Shelly Miyahara** – namasu and potato salad; **Elaine Higa** – pepperoni pizza; **Kathy Sakuda** – beef broccoli Hong Kong style fried noodles; **Tessie Miller** – Hawaiian style assorted potato chips; **Josie Gesteuyala** – tapioca dessert; **Bob and JoAnn Higuchi** – assorted bag chips; **Lynda Takara** – bagged pretzels; **Ruby Chan** - fudge brownies; **Doug and Christina Meller** – cinnamon toast; **Mimi Bornhorst, So Young Lee and Barbara Paahao** – assorted cookies; **Sandie and Karen Torigoe** – Chinese style green beans with pork; **Colette Young** – Okinawan sweet potatoes; **Jodie Domina** – assorted glazed donuts; **Shu Nalo** – Korean sweet and spicy puffs; and **Leanne Tahara** – cookies. Your donations are truly appreciated.



**Ruby Chan, Colette Young, Kathy Sakuda and Jackie Lai** enjoy their refreshments during the break.



## 2025 Aiea Orchid Club Show

The **41<sup>st</sup> Annual Aiea Orchid Show and Plant Sale** was held on Friday, June 6 and Saturday, June 7, 2025, at the Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Honolulu Orchid Society put up a large floor display that incorporated the show theme "**Orchids: Ma`uka to Ma`kai**". The display was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Best Guest Display which received a \$150 cash prize.



Thank you **Adam Almeida** (bright chartreuse shirt in photo above) for taking charge of the HOS display and setting up the display along with **Karen Torigoe, Sandie Torigoe, Jackie Hurd, June Yokomoto, Joe-Ann Lindsey-Rapoza** (Jackie Hurd's friend), **Kathy Sakuda, Lynda Takara, Jed Smith, JoAnn Higuchi, Jackie Lai, Karen Nagamine, Marisa Maemori, Josie Gesteuyala, Charlotte Yamamoto** and **Carol De Witt**. Helping but missing from the photo above were **Elaine Higa** and **Charlene Lau-Beach** (Lynda Takara's friend). On Saturday, **Mel and Pam Waki** and **Charles Nagamine** helped with the breakdown. Special mahalo to our "chefs" **Sandie and Karen Torigoe** for ordering and picking up the lunch bentos and water from **Mamaya** and the **mystery donors** who brought fruits and snacks for those who helped with the display set-up and plant registration.

We also thank **Karen Nagamine, Doug DeMoss, Walter and Ruby Hiraishi, Josie Gesteuyala, Charlotte Yamamoto, Mel and Pam Waki, Elaine Higa, June Yokomoto, Kathy Sakuda, Brad Lau and Linda Inouye** and **Carol De Witt** for sharing their blooming orchid plants, greeneries, and props in the display. There were 53 orchid plants in the display which had the following trophies and award:

- **Best Yellow Cattleya, Rlc. Siam Treasure ' #2',** displayed by **Walter & Ruby Hiraishi**
- **Best Dendrobium, Den stratiotes h.f. album,** displayed by **Mel & Pam Waki**
- **Best Yellow Dendrobium, Den. discolor v. Broomfieldii 'Tough Cookie',** displayed by **Doug DeMoss**
- **Best Vanda, V. Lou Sneary,** displayed by **Elaine Higa**
- **Award of Merit** given by the HOS Panel of Judges, **Paph, Susan Booth 'Nuuanu' AM** HOS (81.0 pts.) displayed by **Doug DeMoss**

Congratulations to the trophy and award winners and the hard working display set-up committee led by **Adam Almeida** for winning the Best Guest Display Trophy.



## More Photos from the Aiea Orchid Show



## Looking Ahead-HOS Meetings & Speaker Program

(All at Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria beginning at 7:00 PM)

- August 13 – **Lina Le**, *Demonstrating Lei Making with Orchid Flowers*
- September 10 – **Doug DeMoss**, *Paphiopedilum Culture*
- October 8 – **Adam Almeida**, *Show Preparations and Plant Grooming Techniques*
- November 12 – *TBD*
- December 10 – *Holiday Celebration (Potluck Dinner)*



## Ewa Orchid Show & Plant Sale

The Ewa Orchid Show is returning after a 5 year hiatus. The Show will be on Friday, July 18 and Saturday, July 19 at the Ewa Elementary School Cafeteria. The Ewa Orchid Society President, **Matthew McKnight III** is the Show Chairman. The Show theme is "**Forever Orchids**".

The Honolulu Orchid Society will be putting up a 10' x 10' floor display at the Show. **Adam Almeida** has volunteered to be in charge of the display. The display set-up will be on Thursday, July 17, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Membership support is really needed to create a great display. Blooming orchid plants, greens, ferns, hina hina and natural items like driftwood and river rocks will be needed. More importantly manpower (and womanpower) will be needed on Thursday to help put up the display. Lunch will be provided for those who help with the setup on Thursday.

Members wishing to put their blooming orchid plants in the HOS display need to bring their orchid plants by 9:00 AM and register them with the Show Plant Registration Desk prior to leaving the plants with the HOS Set-up Committee. For plants that cannot stand alone, place them in a larger pot so they will not fall over when placed in the display. Label your plants and props with your name so they are returned to you at breakdown.

Miniature Orchid Plants will be incorporated into the floor display as there will not be a separate Miniature Display Table at the Ewa Orchid Show.



## HOS Membership

You may renew or join online from the Honolulu Orchid Society website ([www.honoluluorchidsociety.org](http://www.honoluluorchidsociety.org).) 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 the Honolulu Orchid Society to HOS Membership Committee, P.O. Box 558, Honolulu HI 96809-0558.

### Welcome New Members

- Nathan & Jovie Correia, Honolulu
- Glenda Jakubowski, Honolulu

*Welcome to the Society. We look forward to meeting you at our meetings.*



## **Election of 2026 Officers and Trustees**

Members are encouraged to attend Wednesday's meeting to participate in the election of the 2026 Officers and Trustees. A quorum of 30 members is needed to conduct business. In the June 2025 Newsletter and during last month's membership meeting, the Nomination Committee presented the following slate of nominees (Elaine Higa is a recent addition to the Trustees slate):

### **Officers**

President	Adam Almeida
1st Vice President	Melvin Waki
2nd Vice President	Katherine Sakuda
3rd Vice President	Josie Gesteuyala
Correspondence Secretary	Carol De Witt
Recording Secretary	Hongwei Li
Treasurer	Jackie Lai
Past President	Bradley Lau

### **Trustees**

<b><u>2026*</u></b>	<b><u>2027*</u></b>	<b><u>2028*</u></b>
JoAnn Higuchi	Ruby Chan	Elaine Higa
Robert Higuchi	Marisa Maemori	Karen Nagamine
Tessie Miller	Douglas Meller	Karen Torigoe
Lynda Takara	Charlotte Yamamoto	Sandie Torigoe

\* Trustees serve staggered three-year terms through the years shown. Trustees for 2026 and 2027 were elected in prior years.

In accordance with the Honolulu Orchid Society By-Laws, the election of the Officers and Trustees shall be by vote of the members present at the July meeting. **Bob Higuchi**, Election Committee Chair, will conduct the election.

## **Calendar of Events for July 2025**

### **Tuesday, July 8 (7:00 to 9:00 PM)**

HOS Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom Video Conference

### **Wednesday, July 9 (7:00 PM to 9:00 PM) (Doors open at 6:30 PM)**

HOS General Membership Meeting at Lanakila Elementary School Cafeteria.

### **Thursday, July 17 (9:00 AM to 2:00 PM)**

Set up HOS Floor Display at Ewa Orchid Show, Ewa Elementary School Cafeteria

### **Thursday, July 17 (5:00 PM to 9:00 PM)**

HOS Judging for Trophy and Merit Awards at Ewa Orchid Show

### **Friday & Saturday, July 18 & 19 (9:00 AM to 4:00 PM)**

Ewa Orchid Show, Ewa Elementary School Cafeteria

### **Saturday, July 19 (4:00 PM to 5:00 PM)**

Breakdown and Cleanup of HOS display, Ewa Orchid Show

### **Monday, July 28 (6:45 PM to 7:15 PM Plant Registration; Judging to follow)**

HOS Orchid Judging at Aiea Orchid Club Meeting, Aiea Elementary School.



## Plant Culture Table at June Meeting

At the June meeting, 7 plants were brought in by members for the Plant Culture Table. 3 plants were in the **Novice Category** (up to 4 years of growing orchids) and 4 plants were in the **Master's Category** (more than 4 years of growing orchids). During the refreshment break, the audience was given the opportunity to vote for the best in each category. Their choices based on flower appearance, fragrance, uniqueness or overall plant growth are shown below. The plants for the plant culture winners were provided by **S&W Orchids**.

### Novice Category



**1st Place:** V. Lou Sneary  
Grown by **Elaine Higa**

### Masters Category



**1st Place:** Den. Easter Bunny 'Lea'  
Grown by **Brandon Isokane**



**2nd Place:** V. Pachara Delight  
Grown by **Karen Nagamine**



**2nd Place:** Encyclia alata  
Grown by **Jed Smith**



## **Honolulu Orchid Society Judging in June 2025**

**Thursday, June 5, 2025, Aiea Orchid Show, Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria.** 271 plants were registered and displayed at the Aiea Orchid Club Show. Four plants were judged and awarded. The awarded plant is shown below and on the next page as Award Nos. 2025-14 through 2025-17.

**Monday, June 23, 2025, Aiea Orchid Club Meeting, Aiea Elementary School Cafeteria.** Five plants were registered at the meeting. All of the plants were screened. None were judged.

The next HOS Judging session will be held on **Thursday, July 17, 2025**, at the **Ewa Orchid Show**. All of the blooming orchid plants in the displays at the Show will be eligible for judging. You do not have to be a member of HOS to have your plant judged.

There will be **no judging** at the Lanakila Multi-Purpose Senior Center on Saturday, July 12. The judging at the Ewa Orchid Show will take its place.

Photos and descriptions of the HOS Awards for 2025 and prior years are available in the [Award Gallery](#) of the HOS Website.



Award No. 2025-14  
**Paph. Susan Booth 'Nuuanu'**  
AM HOS (81.0 Pts.)  
Owner: **Doug DeMoss**





Award No. 2025-15  
**Paph. Lady Kamiya 'Gwendolyn'**  
 AM HOS (81.3 Pts.)  
 Owner: **Larry Kamiya**



Award No. 2025-16  
**Alcra. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream'**  
 AM HOS (81.3 Pts.)  
 Owners: **Scot & Karen Mitamura**



Award No. 2025-17  
**Onc. Aka Baby 'Raspberry Chocolate'**  
 AM HOS (80.7 Pts.)  
 Owners: **Scot & Karen Mitamura**



## **Recipe of the Month**

### **Custard Peach Pie**

*by Jen Lunsford [jen@cincyshopper.com](mailto:jen@cincyshopper.com)*

Custard Peach Pie is sweet, creamy, and oh so delicious! We make it with creamy custard, fresh or canned peaches, and top it with crumb topping.

**Prep Time:** 15 minutes   **Cook Time:** 60 minutes   **Servings:** 8

#### **Ingredients**

##### **Pie**

- 1 store bought Pie Crust
- 3 Egg Yolks
- 2 containers, 6 oz Peach Yogurt
- 3/4 cup Sugar
- 1/4 cup Flour
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 1/2 cans, 15 oz Peach slices, drained

##### **Topping**

- 6 tbsp Butter
- 1/2 cup Flour
- 1/4 cup Brown Sugar

#### **Instructions**

- Preheat oven to 425.
- Pierce pie crust several times with a fork and prebake for 5-10 minutes.
- Beat egg yolks in a medium bowl until blended.<sup>7</sup>
- Add yogurt, sugar, vanilla and flour. Beat until smooth. Set aside.
- Pat peach slices dry and place in bottom of pie crust.
- Pour custard mixture over peach slices.
- Bake pie for 20 minutes.
- Remove from oven and cover crust with aluminum foil.
- Bake for another 15 minutes.
- In a small bowl combine topping ingredients and blend with pastry cutter or 2 forks.
- Evenly sprinkle the streusel over the top of the pie.
- Bake for 20 more minutes or until the custard is only slightly jiggle.
- Allow to cool before cutting.



**Nutrition Calories:** 341kcal, Carbohydrates: 45g, Protein: 4g, Fat: 16g, Saturated Fat: 8g, Cholesterol: 96mg, Sodium: 169mg, Potassium: 45mg, Fiber: 1g, Sugar: 26g, Vitamin A: 363IU, Calcium: 21mg, Iron: 1mg



## Orchid Tip of the Month by Scot Mitamura

July brings us into our long summer months. This is a critical time for our orchids to grow and store energy for flowering. I am always talking about how important it is to water, but many beginners do not understand how and why it is important to water properly. In Hawaii we are very lucky to have a good water source (except in some areas of the Big Island due to the volcano). Yes, the sodium levels in our water over the years have been rising, but not to overly severe levels. Many growers are turning to Reverse Osmosis to purify their water. I feel that it is a nice to have item, but not a need to have item. If you want to grow orchids successfully, it is of utmost importance to understand how to water. Understand that irrigation systems saves time and benefits the nursery owner and I will use mine on occasion, but my orchids do much better when it rains or when I can water them heavily by hand. I like to water with high volume from all sides of the orchid, especially wetting the undersides of the leaves. I have eliminated any Spider Mite problems that I have experienced and I am minimizing my other insect pests as well as hard water stains (water-spotting). Most of the epiphytic orchids that we commonly grow, naturally hang in trees, this mimics how the plants are wet in nature. My irrigation system, even run for fifteen minutes, does not fully wet the undersides of my orchids. When I hand water I also water the same plant multiple times. If you have ever grown an orchid in a clear pot, you will have seen that even after multiple heavy watering, the whole root ball is still not wet. We want the water to run out of the bottom drainage holes. This helps in minimizing accumulated salts that will kill your roots over time. This is especially important if you are fertilizing regularly because fertilizers are in a form of a soluble salt. Frequency of watering depends on day-length, cloudiness, air circulation, type of media, and type of pots. For epiphytic orchids, let them begin to dry before watering again. Terrestrial orchids generally like to be kept evenly moist. Mounted or hanging orchids normally could be watered every day. So there are many factors that go into deciding if you are going to water your orchids. My advice is to check them daily. This gives you a chance to bond with your orchids. As I am watering, or checking if I need to water, I am looking for orchids coming into flower so I can stake them. I can also see any orchid that has fallen down, or one that has weeds, or one that has insect, or slug damage. How about ones that need fertilizer or need to be re-potted. The list goes on and on. As you can see, I feel it is really important, because you are doing much more than just watering. Without this understanding, one will always struggle to take their orchid collection to the next level. Aloha, Scot

This article appeared in the July 2025 Newsletter of the **Windward Orchid Society** and is reprinted with the approval of **Scot Mitamura** and the **Windward Orchid Society**.

## Condolences

We are sad to announce that **Jennie A. Rosario** passed away on June 1, 2025. She was a member of HOS and served on the Board of Trustees. Services were held on July 2, 2025.

The Honolulu Orchid Society extends its sincerest sympathy to Jennie's family and friends.