

# Kona Orchid Society

E-Newsletter

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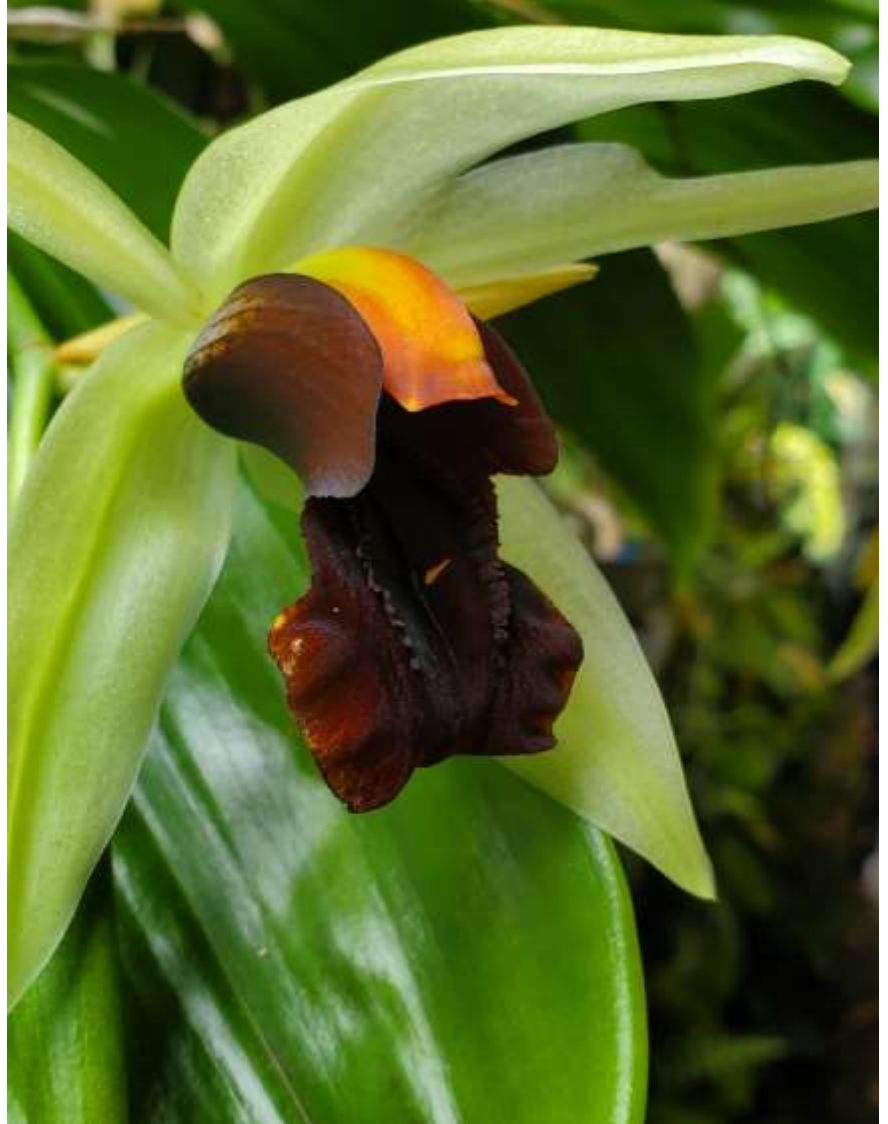
Photos from the April 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting

April 2022

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[www.konaorchidsociety.org](http://www.konaorchidsociety.org)



*Coelogyne usitata* (Featured in February's AOS Magazine)

Grown by Zachary Langridge

*“Educating our members and the public about the collection, culture and appreciation of orchids.”*

### A Message from our president

Spring is in the air, the rains have returned to Kona and our vanilla vines are blooming like crazy. After a wonderful first meeting, the enthusiasm is at an all-time high. We also had our first volunteer opportunity. Hopefully there will be more to come. I would like to give a big thank you to Cheryl DiDonna and Keith Koffman for volunteering to help Jan Rae with her orchid collection. And a very special Mahalo to Phoenicia Zeller for lending her expertise in helping Jan's collection and making sure we did not make too many mistakes.

The enthusiasm continues to run at a high rate as we have a lot going on and a lot in the works, such as rebuilding the club website, designing a club logo, new name tags and planning upcoming events.

–Whitney

## Club Happenings



### April 1<sup>st</sup> Membership Banquet Meeting

We had 60 people in attendance along with 18 new members

For the new members that did not receive “New Members Packets” we will have them at our May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting

Congratulations to all of those that won an auction plant from Island Sun Orchids

Mahalo to Big Island Grill for catering such a lovely dinner

Big Mahalo to Safeway for donating the deserts!

### Next meeting May 6<sup>th</sup>

Doors open at 6pm, Meeting is 6:30 to 8:30

Makua Lani Christian Academy, Bridge Building

Speaker will be Tom Mirenda (Orchids and Polar bears (arctic))

We will have show and tell so get your plants ready

We will not have food or beverages as in years past

If you have not renewed your 2022 annual dues there is still plenty of time. \$25 per member

Come to the next meeting and pay there or fill out the membership form on the website and send it in to the Kona Orchid Society P.O. Box 4566, Kailua Kona, HI 96745

### Upcoming events

**April 22-** Introduction to repotting orchids

**May 6-** Membership Meeting

**May ? -** Repotting Orchids growing out of their pots

**June 10-** Membership Meeting

**June ?-** Orchid Isle Project

**July- 5-** Membership Meeting

**August 5-** Membership Meeting

**August 20 -** Summer Sale (to replace Annual Mother's Day Sale)

### In the works. . .

**Club Logo-** the board has been working on designs for a club logo that will be put to the membership for a vote in May

**Summer Sale-** With no Mother's Day Sale we are going to try a “Summer Plant Sale” that will be a one-day sale and no show

**Orchid Isle Project-** We have 3 confirmed locations: Makua Lani Christian Academy, Holualoa Village, and the Aloha Theater. However, due to the poor condition of the donated plants we are in need of donations. When you are dividing your plants, please keep us in mind to donate those divisions too. Mahalo



# Meet Our New Secretary: Geri Allison

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Article and Photo by Geri Allison

I first became interested in orchids when I was living in Del Mar, California. I had mostly phalaenopsis and oncidium-type orchids, with limited success. Luckily, there was a nearby orchid nursery that featured an “orchid hotel”. You could actually pay them to keep your non-blooming orchid in their nursery and then they would call you when it started to bloom! The price was actually pretty reasonable and it was better than watching my orchids die in the living room...

Back then, I bought most of my orchids at Trader Joe’s, where they were plentiful and cheap. I did especially well with their \$7.99 cymbidiums, which were constantly in bloom. Ironically, that is the one orchid I can’t seem to get to bloom here in Hawaii!

I now grow mostly cattleya, phalaenopsis and oncidium orchids as they do well at my elevation of 1,550 feet. I did grow dendrobiums when I lived at a lower elevation but they don’t do as well up here on the mountain.

After joining Kona Orchid Society, I learned a lot of tips and tricks for using orchids in my landscape and I have a lot of fun experimenting with mounting the plants on my trees and around my koi pond.



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*Geri's Hono Hono Orchid, March 2021  
Newsletter*

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*Geri's Hono Hono Orchid, April 2022*

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# Member Plant Show and Tell

Mahalo to all the members that shared their blooming orchids.

Please email your photos of blooming plants to [kos@konaorchidsociety.org](mailto:kos@konaorchidsociety.org) to be included.

*Feel free to send photos of problem orchids so we can help.*



*No Name, Jan Rae*



*Dendrobium Starburst Fire wings., Whitney Steele*



*Den. amethystoglossum, Whitney Steele*

# Help and Hints from an Expert: Phoenicia Zeller

## Help



### Question

Is there a way to fix it? I'm heartsick. I nearly killed this poor baby but repotted on my own and she started doing better and even sprouted this new growth. Now this. Any help, suggestions would be appreciated.

We live in Waikoloa Village. Dry. 1000' elevation. I put my orchids outside (only 2) on the porch in a shaded spot. AM sun filtered. Been doing great with 7 to 10 sometimes 14 day water schedule for many months now. Last week after hearing when growing season comes to an end water more frequently. So I did 7 days but believe the brown tip was out before I watered. This is a new shoot from the base and what you see is what came out.

Mahalo for your help, Andrea

### Answer

You say you watered with as long as 14 days apart. That is too long in between, in such a dry place as Waikoloa. With the wind and dryness there, your conditions are a bit different than most. It's a bit difficult to know more without seeing the whole plant, not just the affected area. The new growth looks stunted and more narrow. You also mention the growing season. This is the growing season so watering more often is good. If nothing is soft or squishy, smelly when cut, no bugs, I wouldn't worry about it. You will just have to wait for the next growth to start. If the new part gets soft, smelly etc. cut it off. Good luck, Phoenicia

## Hints

This piece of *C. mossiae* was cut off of a large hanging plant. The massive roots would have rotted if I had tried to pot them inside a new pot. I hung them using some wire and a hook and many months later, these flowers developed and opened. I would have left them on the original large plant if they hadn't been hanging down so far making the flowers very difficult to see and enjoy. Also, they are heavy and might have broken. I did water them more since they were so open to the air.



# Photos from the April 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting



*Susan Elliot and Jan Rae*



Left to right: Maggie Adarme, Kathy Penwell, Jennifer Snyder, Bob Harris



Jennifer Snyder talking to the membership about their new Epidendrum orchids