

[hawaiiislandpalmsociety.com](http://hawaiiislandpalmsociety.com)

June / July, 2018

Since 1974

Issue # 21

## President's Message.....



**W**hile the recent Kilauea lava flows have inundated only about 1% of the land mass of Hawaii Island, more than 20% of our society's members live in the area directly affected by the current eruption. Several of the island's most beautiful gardens and great palm collections, as well as the nascent dreams of new plantings, are surrounded or have already been consumed by lava. Some of our members, including some on the HIPS board have lost their houses or have had to evacuate. Putting together this year's schedule of garden tours and events has proven to be a challenge, we have yet to finalize this year's program. I ask for your patience during this uncertain time. This photo from the USGS shows the Leilani Community Center (the roof and cell phone tower just right of the steam cloud above the lava fountain) where last year we had our potluck after the Messenheimer garden tour and later met for shuttles to the Andersen garden.



In the face of these reminders of our impermanence, our first garden tour and lecture is a celebration of our society's civic legacy. Started in 1974, the young Hawaii Island Palm Society helped shape the landscapes we see in east Hawaii today in many ways. Even as lava from Mauna Loa glowed above Hilo in 1984, palms were being planted in the newly created zoo, the modern and new Prince Kuhio Shopping Center, and the expanded University of Hawaii campus. Gain a deeper appreciation for the palms of Hilo by attending this short lecture and joining Dr. Don Hemmes for a tour of the cycad and palm collection he started at UH Hilo, at 1:00 pm on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. We hope some of our founding members will be on hand to share stories of the early days.

Warm wishes to our members who have been displaced or have suffered during the current eruption.

Mary Lock  
HIPS President

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### **Hilo's Palm History**



# University of Hawaii - Hilo

**Saturday, June 23rd, 2018, 1pm**



Photo: Tim Brian

**T**o kick off the summer season, we are excited to invite you to a presentation discussing how a core group of palm enthusiasts, led to the planting of palms in public areas of Hilo, the development of the palm collection at the Pana'ewa Rainforest Zoo and Gardens, and the creation of the Hawaii Island Palm Society over 40 years ago. At the conclusion of the slide show presentation by Mary Lock, there will be a guided tour of the large palm and cycad collection at U/H Hilo. Feel free to bring a non-member guest with you to enjoy the presentation and tour.

**WHAT:** Hilo's Palm History & Tour of U/H's Palm & Cycad Garden

**WHERE:** U/H Hilo's Science & Technology Building, Room Info @ Parking Area Day of Tour

**WHEN:** Saturday, June 23rd

**TIME:** 1 PM SHARP

**PARKING & MEETING PLACE** Mauka of the new Science & Technology building across from the Church of the Holy Cross on W. Lanikaula Street. HIPS will have members out directing you to parking and the lecture hall in the Science.

If you are coming up Lanikaula, go past the entrance just past (mauka) of the Science and Technology building and turn left into the large parking lot just a couple of hundred yards farther. We will have people there with signs to help you. If you are coming from the opposite direction, on Kumakoa Street, go over the bridge and take the first right into the large parking lot. We'll have people with signs to guide you to the Science and Technology building. If you have special needs there is handy cap parking right next to the building.

**NOTES:** As with all of our garden tours, please wear comfortable closed-toed shoes as the walking areas tend to be unlevel. Please bring bug repellent for your use. A hat or umbrella for protection depending on the weather. As with all garden tours they take place "rain or shine"! Also, don't forget your camera. HIPS will provide bottled water on the tour.

See you there!

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## FEATURED PALM

**Cyphosperma *tanga***





Photos: Tim Brian





## South Pacific Beauty

**T**his beautiful palm is endemic to the island of Viti Levu, Fiji. It is found on the slopes of Fiji's tallest mountain, Mt. Tomanivi, from 2000 to 3000 feet. With only one small surviving population, this palm has a critically endangered status. Still relatively new to cultivation, feedback from local growers have been positive and they are thriving here in east Hawaii. This is a medium sized palm with a chocolate-brown trunk, a full crown of large upright leaves, and an ultimate height of approximately 16'. Perfect for a tropical garden.

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## Email address change?

**T**his is our only way to keep in touch with you! Please let us know if there are any changes to your email address. Send us a note on the website or contact the membership chair. [hawaiiislandpalmsociety.com](http://hawaiiislandpalmsociety.com)

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## Ideas or Suggestions?

**H**ave an idea for an event, speaker, or garden tour that might be of interest to the Society? Call Mary Lock at (808) 430-0401. Or, you can email me [here](#).

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