

# BULLETIN



HELICONIA  
SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL

A Journal of the Zingiberales, including Cannaceae, Costaceae, Heliconiaceae, Lowiaceae, Marantaceae, Musaceae, Strelitziaceae, and Zingiberaceae

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## Exotic Indonesia

Text and photographs by Héctor Méndez-Caratini  
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At 2:00 in the afternoon, on Monday August 18th 2014, I and my wife Annette initiated our third voyage to Asia. We were heading for the XVIII Heliconia Society International Conference, held in Bali, Indonesia.

After a very long trip, we arrived at our destination two days later, on Wednesday August 20th, at 2:00 pm, very tired and jet lagged. We had crossed the enigmatic International Date Line. (An imaginary line on the surface of the Earth, in the Pacific Ocean, that runs from the North Pole to the South Pole, and demarcates backward calendar day from the next.) It had taken us exactly 48 hours to arrive to the other side of the world, aboard three different airplanes (on the way from Puerto Rico we flew north to Newark, to Hong Kong [we saw the effects of global warming and the melting of the glaciers over the Arctic Ocean], then South to Jakarta). This was carried out without stopping over, nor staying at hotels along the way.



Global warming



Prambanan Temple at night

When we arrived to Jakarta's international airport, a representative was waiting for us to take us to the hotel. That evening we celebrated and had dinner with the international delegation of friends.

The Pre-Conference Tour started very early the next morning. Twenty of us boarded a tourist bus and headed 60 km south to Bogor, Java, where the Bogor Botanical Garden is located. It is a jewel, founded in 1744 by the Dutch East India Company. In its 80 hectares of forest there is an interesting Costaceae collection and a beautiful orchid pavilion, designed by our dear friend and tour organizer Benny Tjia, among other great scenic sites.



Stupas at Borobudur

The next day we boarded another plane for a short one-hour flight to Yogyakarta, renowned for Javanese arts. We familiarized ourselves with the multicultural ethnic races of Indonesia. We visited Borobudur. It is the world's largest Buddhist temple, constructed in the 9th century. While in central Java, we also visited the Prambanan Temple Compound - the tallest and most beautiful Hindu temple - declared a world cultural heritage site by UNESCO.



Rama Wijaya



Batik

On another evening, at Prambanan, we were invited to a magical performance given by the Ramayana Ballet Ensemble. The theatrical actors interpreted Indonesian ancestral creation myths. We also saw the majestic Sultan's Palace and its bath annex, where a performance of shadow puppetry and gamelan playing was being held.



Muslim women

During our pleasant stay in Yogyakarta, we visited a silver jewelry store as well as two different batik making stores, where we purchased local souvenirs. While in Java, we were guests of honor of Vimala Hills, a high scale housing development complex with a growing heliconia collection.



Greg Hambali

In Indonesia, curiously enough, we noticed that local customs were totally different from Western ones. Muslim women always covered their heads and were not allowed to drink alcohol. We didn't know that the rule applied to tourists too. My wife, and other female delegates, had a difficult time ordering beers at local restaurants and at the hotels where we were staying.

We were driven to noted hybridizer Greg Hambali's stunning plant nursery. He uses conventional breeding methods to obtain precious unique specimens with variegated leaves. He is also a pioneer conducting innovative experiments: Exposing calathea and aglaonema plants to radiation. The same principle could be applied to heliconias.

From Yogyakarta we flew to Denpasar, Bali, the neighboring island where the convention was held. Forty-three participants, from over a dozen different countries, participated in the HSI XVIII Conference at the Graha Cakra Hotel – a traditional ethnic hotel with beautiful landscaping.

On the first day of conferences several presentations were given by the international delegation. Afterwards, that same evening we had a welcoming reception at the Bali Orchid Garden. Our host (and conference director) David Dowd served us an exquisite Balinese dinner. He also had a local ensemble reenact a magnificent theatrical performance of the traditional Sacred Barong Dance.



Barong man

In between the two days of interesting presentations, we headed out for a day tour to Mount Batukaru – it is the second highest peak in Bali. On the way there we saw numerous rice paddies as well as hundreds of motorcycles everywhere. We had a terrific jungle walk through the dense tropical rainforest. In the evening, another party was held at the lovely residence of Bruno Thoeng. The hotel entrepreneur and patron entertained us with lovely young exotic dancers, lots of karaoke singing and a stupendous Balinese buffet.

### The Purpose of HSI

The purpose of HSI is to increase the enjoyment and understanding of *Heliconia* (Heliconiaceae) and related plants (in the families Cannaceae, Costaceae, Lowiaceae, Marantaceae, Musaceae, Strelitziaceae, and Zingiberaceae) of the order Zingiberales through education, research and communication. Interest in Zingiberales and information on the cultivation and botany of these plants is rapidly increasing. HSI will centralize this information and distribute it to members.

The **HELICONIA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL**, a nonprofit corporation, was formed in 1985 because of rapidly developing interest around the world in these plants and their close relatives. We are composed of dues-paying members. Our officers and all participants are volunteers. Everyone is welcome to join and participate. HSI conducts a Biennial Meeting and International Conference.

Membership dues are (in \$US): Individual \$40, Family \$45, PDF \$25, Student \$10, Contributing \$50, Corporate \$100, Sus-

taining \$500, Lifetime Member \$1000. Membership fees constitute annual dues from 1 July through 30 June. All members receive the BULLETIN (usually published quarterly) and special announcements. Join or renew your membership at [www.heliconia.org](http://www.heliconia.org).

### HSI Officers and Board of Directors for 2014-2016

Carla Black, President and Membership; David Lorence, Treasurer; Jan Hintze, Secretary, Membership and Etlingera Cultivar Registrar; Dave Skinner, Costaceae Cultivar Registrar and Conservation Centers; Colton Collins, Webmaster; Chelsea Specht, Student Grants; Bryan Brunner, Heliconia Cultivar Registrar; Sandra Barnes, Archivist; and Directors: W. John Kress, Vinita Gowda, Timothy Chapman, Carlos Castro and Annap Ongsakul.

The HSI BULLETIN is the quarterly publication of the HELICONIA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL. Inquiries: Jan Hintze, [admin@heliconia.org](mailto:admin@heliconia.org). Website: [www.heliconia.org](http://www.heliconia.org)





Conference group

While in Bali, I immediately noticed that there were animistic altars, dedicated to ancestral spirits, at the entrance of every home or business, to ward off the evil spirits. They were to be found everywhere, including inside the forest.

We did not see any of the native Old World Heliconiaceae (*H. indica*, *H. papuana*, *H. paka*, *H. lanata*, *H. solomonensis*), only a very few common varieties which have been introduced recently. The red and yellow varieties of *H. caribaea* that we saw in flower arrangements, I was told, were the result of seeds that Sherry Ballester (HSI member) and I had shared with our Indonesian friends a few years back.



Altar



Young Indonesian girl



Musicians

The HSI board of directors announced that the next HSI XIX Conference is going to be held in Brazil. Carlos Castro, Vivian Loges, Ana Cecilia Ribeiro de Castro and Charles-

ton Gonçalves will be the hosts for the 2016 meeting. So, friends, start saving now, for what promises to be another memorable HSI trip, this time to joyful Brazil.

After the last day of conferences, the group gathered at the Hong Kong Garden Restaurant. We had a seven-course farewell dinner and an auction to raise money for HSI. Twenty-three participants were enthusiastically getting ready to board a plane, very early the next morning, for the Post Conference Tour to Sulawesi. Others had different plans and returned home the next day.



Temple offering

Our special thanks to HSI's dynamic president Carla Black, Benny Tjia, David Dowd, and the rest of the crew, for organizing such a remarkable trip to the Orient, full of unforgettable, unique, cultural memories that will last a lifetime.

*The full version of this article first appeared in the Newsletter of the Heliconia Society of Puerto Rico (HSPR).*



## XVIII Biennial Heliconia Society International Conference, in Bali, Indonesia

Glenn Stokes glennstokes@mcci.info

All aspects of the XVIII Biennial Conference of HSI were outstanding with wonderful once-in-a-lifetime experiences and fruitful exchanges of botanical information. Many new friends, many memorable experiences, and much knowledge were gained from this conference, half way around the world from the “home” of HSI.



Bogor Botanical Gardens

Several conferees arrived in Jakarta the day prior to Pre-Tour; then the balance of the Pre-Tour conferees joined in Bogor. The very first day of the Pre-Tour was fantastic with visits to Bogor

Botanical Gardens, Vimala Hills Gardens and Greg Hambali's nursery in village of Baranangslang Indah. This was without a doubt the busiest day of the whole conference! There was a sensory overload of exotic plants, places, people and foods.



*Saraca thaipingensis*



Scarlet flame bean

*Brownea capitella*

The next day we took a Garuda Airlines flight to Jogjakarta. After a delicious lunch we visited Prambanan Temple complex, followed by a buffet dinner at Prambanan Gardens restaurant and then walked next door to see the Ramayana (Hindu epic) Ballet on an outdoor stage with the floodlighted Temple complex in the background. We also visited the Buddhist Borobudur Temple complex.

Early the next morning we flew Garuda Airlines to Denpasar, Bali where we had time to decompress at our conference hotel Graha Cakra the day before the conference began. On Monday (August 25<sup>th</sup>) the conference be-

gan with the Board of Directors meeting and individual presentations. The first evening, conferees were entertained at the Bali Orchid Gardens for dinner, drinks, and a sacred Barong and Rangda performance of dance and music courtesy of organizer David Dowd.



*Musa coccinea*

The next day began with a field trip via bus to Mount Batukaru and a jungle walk with lunch following, then back to the hotel before going to Mr. Bruno Theong's home and adjacent gardens for yet another Balinese feast with entertainment and karaoke in an open air setting. After a third night at the Graha Cakra hotel, scientific paper presentations resumed the next morning. Then a final Balinese feast was enjoyed at the Hong Kong Garden restaurant followed by the traditional HSI auction, which was lively and spirited. There were some early goodbyes after the auction by those conferees that had early departures. However,

most conferees returned to Graha Cakra for a final night's stay.



Dancers at Bali Orchid Garden

The next morning there were more departures from the Denpasar, Bali airport for those who were not booked on the Post-Tour to Sulawesi. Those on the Post-Tour took an early 5:00 am bus to Denpasar airport for 7:00 am Garuda Airlines flight to Makassar, Sulawesi. It was a 1 ½ hr. flight to the “capital” city of Sulawesi.

Every day—and night—for the next 5 days was an exciting adventure. There was one “first time” experience after another—new foods, new sights, new plants, new languages, and new friendly cultures of Indonesians. We



spent our first night on Sulawesi at the Hotel Eka in Sengkang. On the way we stopped off at the Batimurung Butterfly Park and limestone hills. The next day we visited silk factories, then took a ride in boats with



“long tail” motors on Lake Tempe, enjoying natural scenery and flying birds along the river leading to the lake and watching fishermen plying their trade. We also saw floating houses in the middle of the lake where fishermen’s families lived. Then after another Indonesian feast was enjoyed we bused to the town of Watampone for a stay at the Hotel Wisata. Dinner was a “royal feast” hosted by the local Sultan at his Palace and Museum. Plus we were treated to another folk dance performance. Then we bused to the town



Lunch at Kaliopak restaurant

of Sinjai for a night at the Sahia Hotel. The next day we drove to Jeneponto, via the coastal village of Bira to see traditional “pinisi” boat building. There was a folkdance performance at the Jeneponto Hotel with a gamelan band. We spent a welcome 2<sup>nd</sup> night at the Jeneponto Hotel that was owned by Mr. Bruno Theong. Bruno, a close friend of David Dowd and conference patron, flew over to Sulawesi from his home in Bali to be with us at his Jeneponto Hotel.

Every previous day in Sulawesi had ended with a 1 night stay. The last night in Jeneponto we were royally entertained by the Regent of Jeneponto and many city and provincial officials at a lavish banquet with a special presentation by the mayor to HSI president, Carla Black. And there was extemporaneous singing and dancing by many HSI



Above, boy riding water buffalo  
Below, young Banteng cattle

members. The food was great and the hosts were very gracious. I think this was the first time we enjoyed horse meat served in the buffet (horse meat is considered a delicacy in the region). Along the hundreds of kilometers of roads we traveled during the Post-Tour, we saw rice being hand planted and hand harvested, seaweed being harvested and

dried, all kinds of fruits and seeds being dried (rice, copra, cloves, pepper, etc.) along the roadsides, plus salt evaporation ponds, and grazing water buffalo and beautiful Banteng cattle.



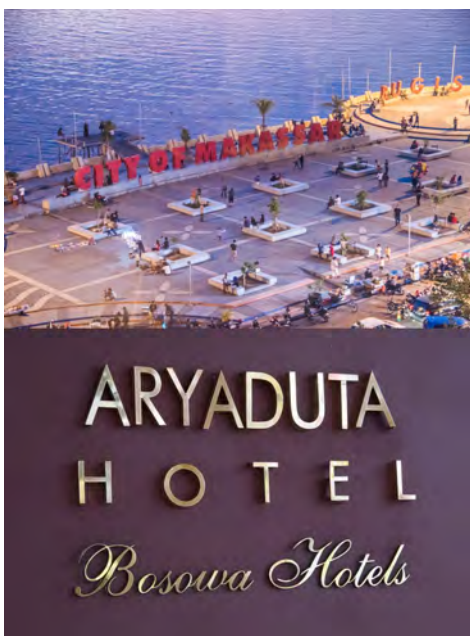
Vivian Loges with Sulawesi women



Prambanan Temple Complex



After a whirlwind trip through South Sulawesi, we arrived back in Makassar, and to our collective delight, checked into the 5-star hotel, Aryaduta, located right on the harbor waterfront. All post-conferenees had an “a la carte” dinner at the hotel on the last night and many sad farewells were exchanged after dinner because there were early morning departures along with afternoon ones. The last group left the hotel at 4:00 pm for 6:35 pm flight to Denpasar, Bali—with more sad farewells at the Denpasar airport. From there members dispersed to six continents: Asia, Australia, North America, Europe, South America and Africa. All-in-all the XVIII HSI Conference was very successful, with much learning, great camaraderie, international friendship building, and just plain fun. HSI members must now await the 2 years until we reconvene in Brazil.

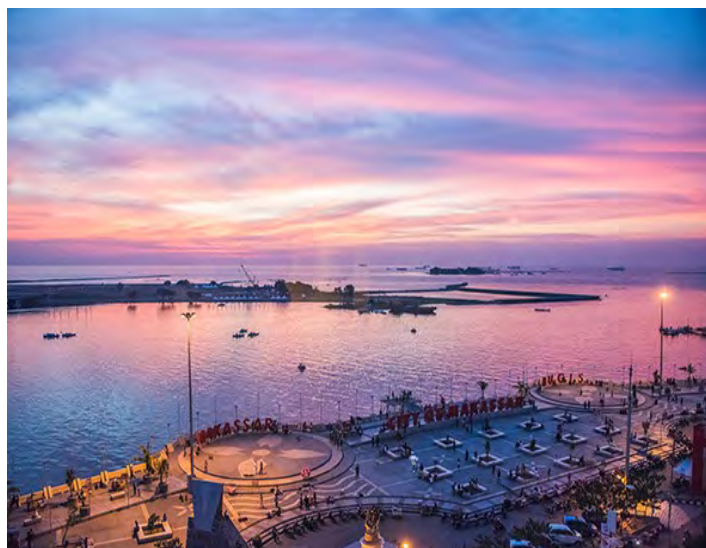


View of Makassar waterfront

The Dowds (David, wife Dorothy, and daughter Pam) are to be commended for their planning and guiding the Pre- and Post-Tours as well as the program planning for the Conference. Another outstanding asset to the Conference was Dr. Benny Tjia, who planned the Pre-Tour, arranged sponsorship, and was with us through the Pre-Tour and the conference. Also Greg Hambali was a very gracious host of the Pre-Tour group at his outstanding nursery in a suburb of Bogor.



Musicians in Aryaduta Hotel lobby



Sunset in Makassar, from hotel room

There were 20 Pre-Tour conferees, a total of 44 attendees from 6 continents for the conference in Bali, and 23 Post-Tour conferees. Fifteen countries were represented: USA (11), New Zealand (3), Panama (2), Australia (7), Indonesia (7), Brazil (3), South Africa (2), Thailand (2), Philippines (1), Puerto Rico (3), The Netherlands (1), Japan (1), and Malaysia (2).



Fish market at Old Port in Makassar



## Things you find when you aren't looking

Jan Hintze [hintze@ozemail.com.au](mailto:hintze@ozemail.com.au)

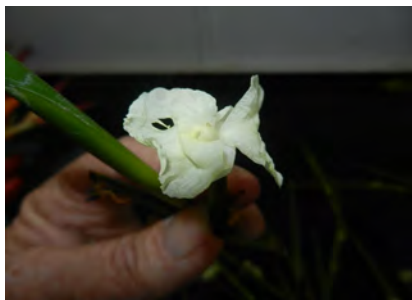
A few months ago, I was working with some women in the Solomon Islands, conducting a workshop on micro scale cut flower production of heliconias and gingers – fortunately I was there before the recent floods caused so much damage. As part of the programme, I asked the women to bring in some flowers from their gardens, so I could see what they already had available as well as to demonstrate some styles of flower arranging. I was quite surprised at the variety of flowers they had, and absolutely fascinated by two flowers I had not seen before.



Green form, showing stem structure and flowers

One was obviously Marantaceae but something completely different – a long stem with angular branches, with small white flowers. There were two varieties of this – one with green stems, and the other with dark brown/purple stems. They both had white flowers. I only was able to see one leaf, which was fairly

crushed, since the lady had used the leaf and leaf stem to tie up the bundle of flowers. There were language difficulties so I couldn't get much detail about plant size, etc. but from the leaf, I would suspect 1 – 2 m.



Detail of flower



Red form, slightly different branching habit, and flowers



Somewhat crumpled leaf, red tinged reverse, green upper

My friend and great authority on Marantaceae, Dr. Helen Kennedy kindly identified these for me, and they are from the genus *Cominsia*, but the species is difficult. *C. guppeyi* is a Solomon Is. species, but the Smithsonian says 'Little is known about this genus'.



Side view of inflorescence indicating that the stem had fallen horizontally as the weight of the flower pulled the stem down

My other surprise was a type/species of *Alpinia*, which I hadn't seen before and I haven't been able to track down a species name for it – which, since I am not a taxonomist, is not surprising.

I would have loved to bring a plant of each home with me, but unfortunately Australian quarantine restrictions prevent that, since you have to obtain the permit before you leave the country.



Close up of florets, white, with multiple flowers showing from one bud



Some of the lovely flower arrangements the women made using their own flowers



## XVIII HSI Conference Bali, Indonesia August 25-28, 2014

Richard Criley criley@hawaii.edu

Following a great pre-conference tour to the Island of Java, participants gathered at the Graha Cakra Hotel on Bali for presentations, a field trip, and several fabulous dinners. Members of the HSI Board of Directors also gathered to discuss business of the society (See Carla Black's report, elsewhere in this issue).



Dr. Richard Criley

Kicking off the presentations, Dr. Richard Criley reprised his talk to the International Horticultural Congress the week before: "Alpinia to Zingiber – The Commercial Zingiberales." Dr. Hidenobu Funakoshi reported on his research with *Alpinia zerumbet* var. *excelsa*, noting differences among varieties of this species. Glenn Stokes regaled the audience with his slides and account of his travels in Madagascar, a fascinating island in time and cultures. Carla Black added the excitement of her travels in the Andean mountain ranges of Colombia in a presentation fairly dripping with moisture and plants. Colton Collins explained a computer program he developed to determine planting plans for best economic returns, given a particular suite of species and number of planting sites. Colton is HSI's new webmaster and designer of the new HSI website, and he spoke about its features (See accompanying article, this issue).

Brazilian scientists Dr. Vivian Loges and Ana Castro continued the conference sessions on the third day with Vivian's talk on heliconias as cut flowers in Brazil and Ana's review of Brazil's genetic resources in the *Heliconia* genus. Who knew there were so many wonderful species that still need evaluation? Glenn Stokes may have an inexhaustible supply of heliconia images, but he thoughtfully trimmed down his photographic journey to a little over half an hour. Debora Herlina Andriyani (Indonesia) reported on her postharvest studies with *H. psittacorum*. The Dutch can grow the 'Dwarf Jamaican' (*H. stricta*) and 'Red Christmas' (*H. angusta*) heliconias in their glasshouses, but Peter van Lujik told us that there is now little production partly due to costs of heating and competition from off-shore production.

Doris Marcsik and Mark Hoult were long engaged in research with a variety of gingers and heliconias in northern Australia. Doris reported on their work in hybridizing and selecting hybrids of *Curcuma*, mostly *C. alismatifolia* but



Our host, Mr. Bruno Theong, and dancers in his garden

also with some other species. Hector Mendez-Caratini reported on the Caribbean species, *H. bihai* and *H. caribaea* and their hybrids, including some wonderful historical notes. Dr. David Lorence updated the audience on the status of various HSI Conservation Centers, noting also the affiliation of HSI to the Botanical Gardens Conservation International (BGCI), a plant charity organization based at the Royal Botanical Garden in Kew, England, that raises awareness and scientific understanding of threatened plants.

David Dowd, his daughter Pam, and his staff at the Bali Orchid Gardens put out the red carpet for the conferees and treated us to a delightful dinner reception at the Gardens,

replete with a rousing performance of a traditional Balinese folk tale. On our second evening after trekking through a national park in central Bali, we were hosted by Mr. Bruno Thoeng in



Ceremonial welcome to David Dowd's Bali Orchid Garden

a gardens dinner at his home, also accompanied by a Balinese dance performance and karaoke opportunities. The closing dinner at the Hong Kong Gardens Restaurant featured 10 courses of Chinese entrees followed by a spirited auction of heliconia seeds, artwork, fashion, and Balinese momentos. Bright and early the next morning many of the participants departed for their post-conference tour to Sulawesi.



## President's Report 2014 Board Meeting, Bali, Indonesia

Carla Black carla@volcanbaru.com

The XVIII Conference of the Heliconia Society International was a great success, thanks to the efforts of David Dowd and his daughter Pam Dowd, and Benny and Jenny Tija. We thoroughly enjoyed the fruits of their labor - I extend a special Thank You to the organizers from all of us who participated!



Carla Black presiding over board meeting

The board of directors meets in person every two years, at the conference.

We meet via email in the odd years. There were six of us present in Bali and David Skinner joined us via Skype for the discussion on HSI conservation centers. Other board members

were able to comment on agenda topics before the meeting, and so were with us in spirit. We discussed a number of topics that are interesting to the members:

**New website:** Our new Webmaster Colton Collins gave us a full tour of the new HSI website, and it has subsequently been inaugurated. Enjoy the features, but more importantly, make the site better by contributing to the galleries of photos of plants, conferences and plant people. We'll be sending instructions for uploading photos and reminders via email and the website.

**Bulletin:** We agreed to mount a project to fully index the second decade of the HSI Bulletin - 40 issues. We'll need a large group of volunteers to spread the work, each person taking an issue or two. If you're interested in helping, please send a note to [admin@heliconia.org](mailto:admin@heliconia.org)

In other bulletin news, the editors continue to request articles from all sources, including you, the members. Because of the challenge to gather sufficient materials, the board agreed that the bulletin could publish with 12 pages, if necessary to keep it on its quarterly schedule.

**Student Grants:** In the last cycle we did not award a student grant, due to the lack of qualified applicants. We have funds and interest to support graduate students

working in any area of the Zingiberales. Please pass the word to any students in your circle of acquaintances. If you would like more information please write to [admin@heliconia.org](mailto:admin@heliconia.org).

Timothy Chapman, from Louisiana USA, is our newest board member. Welcome, Tim! Long-time stalwart Victor Lee in Singapore stepped down from the board. Thank you, Victor, for your thoughtful participation in board activities, and for hosting us in Singapore for the 2010 Conference.

The Heliconia Society International is your society, and we look forward to your participation. Feel free to contact me with any comments at [admin@heliconia.org](mailto:admin@heliconia.org). Best regards to you all, and best wishes for your endeavors with Zingiberales.

### HSI Member Profile

HSI President Carla Black has initiated a series to let our membership know about the activities of our Board of Directors and other members of the Society. Our first profile is new Director, Tim Chapman.

#### Timothy Chapman

St. Gabriel, Louisiana, USA. HSI Board of Directors 2014-2018.

#### *When did you join HSI?*

Many many years ago when I was a teenager, I don't remember exactly - 20+ years ago.

#### *What is your professional position?*

Owner of Gingerwood Nursery.



#### *What is your work with Zingiberales?*

Collecting, growing, selling and developing ornamental gingers. I focus on the deciduous species of Zingiberaceae that have potential to be cold hardy. I hybridize within the genus *Kaempferia* as well as some *Costaceae*.

#### *When/what was your initial attraction to Zingiberales?*

My parents had a few plants many years ago and I became interested in them. Plants and information were very scarce at the time so it became a fun challenge to learn more about them. I began importing new varieties from around the world at an early age.

#### *What is your favorite in the Order?*

Zingiberaceae, followed by *Costaceae*.

#### *What do you hope to accomplish, or what do you see in the future of your field?*

I would like to publish a new edition of my ginger book and continue to introduce new material into the USA. Gingers still have an enormous amount of untapped potential and the possibilities through breeding work are endless.



## HSI's New Website


Colton Collins, Webmaster  
[cocollins@plantgrouphawaii.com](mailto:cocollins@plantgrouphawaii.com)

HSI has inaugurated our redesigned website which will be live soon. The new website is clean, user friendly, and provides a much needed fresh look for the society. The overall design of the new website is simple. The HSI logo and dropdown menu is located at the top of every page, commonly used quick links are found at the bottom, and photos and informative text fill the content area. While

there are many features and upgrades to the redesign, only a few are highlighted and described below.

### Home Page


The home page now features a large slideshow which emphasizes what's new at HSI. The display includes current information about the Bulletin, conference updates, and newly registered cultivars. Below the slideshow are four subheadings titled Cultivar Registration, Research Grants, Conferences, and Join HSI. Each subheading is accompanied by an icon and description of what HSI has to offer to its members and the general public.



# HELICONIA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL


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### Cultivar Registration

HSI has been appointed as the International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for Etlingera and 4 genera in Costaceae. Register your cultivars [here](#).






### Cultivar Registration

The Heliconia Society International is the official International Cultivar Registration Authority (ICRA) for the genera *Heliconia*, *Etlingera*, *Costus*, *Cheilocostus*, *Chamaecostus*, and *Paracostus*. Register a new cultivar or look up existing cultivars [here](#).

### Join HSI


Become a member and receive our quarterly Bulletin. Sign up or renew membership [here](#). Not sure? Preview our [back issues](#) which are now free to non-members



### Research Grants

HSI sponsors a small grants program supporting research projects on any aspects of the botany and horticulture of the Zingiberales conducted by graduate and post-doctoral students. Annual grants of \$500 are available. Find out [more](#).



### Conferences

Our biennial conferences provide great opportunities to network and learn about the latest in research and industry relating to Zingiberales. [Conferences](#) are accompanied by field oriented pre and post tours.

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## Bulletin Page

Navigating through back and current issues of the Bulletin is now easier and visually appealing. Instead of searching by year, volume, and number, a user can now view and search by the cover page of every Bulletin. To

take a closer look at each cover, simply click on the photo and an enlarged image will appear. Once you have found the issue you are looking for, click on the 'Go to Link' button and a pdf of that issue will open in a new tab. All issues from the very first issue to the most recent are available online.

### Bulletins: Back Issues



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2009 Vol.15 No.1



2008 Vol.14 No.4



2008 Vol.14 No.3



2008 Vol.14 No.2.



### Lyon Page

Thanks to Ray Baker and the Lyon Arboretum, HSI has been granted permission to host the Lyon pdf files. The Lyon pdf files are documents containing photos and collection information of five families and over 300 species within the order *Zingiberales*. The new website hosts these

files on the Lyon's PDF page. Each pdf is arranged by alphabetical order of family, genus, and species. Icons of each species display the first page of each pdf in order to ease navigation amongst species. Clicking on the photo icon or name while open the pdf of that taxa in a new window.



*Alpinia modesta*



*Alpinia mutica* aff



*Alpinia mutica*



*Alpinia nieuwenhuizii*



*Alpinia nigra*



*Alpinia novaepommerana...*



*Alpinia novae-pommerana...*



*Alpinia oblongifolia*



*Alpinia oceanica*



*Alpinia officinarum*



*Alpinia oxymitra*



*Alpinia oxyphylla*



*Alpinia pinetorum*



*Alpinia pubiflora*



*Alpinia purpurata*



*Alpinia romburghiana*



### The Plants Page

The new website also provides more photos and information about each family in the order *Zingiberales*. Below is an example of the *Heliconiaceae* page. It includes multiple photos displaying the diversity within the genus and a description of the family quoted from the Smith-

sonian National Museum of Natural History. The redesigned page also provides links to additional information about the family, such as the *Heliconia* cultivar registration program and recommended readings. The subsection of the page titled 'The Plants' offers easy access to other families within the order.



*Heliconia aemygdiana*



## Heliconiaceae

One genus

~225 species

The single genus *Heliconia* has perhaps 225 species (only 180 have so far been described) that are distributed primarily in the neotropics. *Heliconia* has been variously associated with the banana family or the bird-of-paradise family, but is now placed in its own family Heliconiaceae. The inverted flowers, the presence of a single staminode, and the peach-like fruits are special features of *Heliconia*. Many species, varieties, and cultivars are now being grown as pot plants and for cut flowers. The name *Heliconia* is derived from Helicon, a mountain in southern Greece regarded by the ancient Greeks to be the home of the Muses, hence suggesting the relationship between these plants and the bananas (genus *Musa*). - description via [Smithsonian NMNH](#)

### For more information:

[Heliconia Cultivar Registration Program](#)

[Recommended Readings](#)

### The Plants

Cannaceae (Cannas)

Costaceae (Spiral Gingers)

Heliconiaceae (Heliconias)

Lowiaceae

Marantaceae

Musaceae (Bananas)

Strelitziaceae (Bird of Paradise)

Zingiberaceae (Gingers)

Although the site provides many new and attractive features it is still a work in progress, and all HSI members can help make it better. High quality photos are always needed, as well as presentations from past conferences. In addition, a members' roster page and a references page for past Bulletin articles will be created soon. Please register your cultivars of *Costaceae*, *Etlingera*, and *Heliconia* so

that the website can remain an updated reference. If you have any photos, materials, questions, or comments regarding the new website, please send them to [cocollins@plantgrouphawaii.com](mailto:cocollins@plantgrouphawaii.com)

With your participation, we look forward to making [www.heliconia.org](http://www.heliconia.org) the best Zingiberales resource available!



## Book Review

Richard Criley criley@hawaii.edu

The Ginger Garden. Jana Leong-Skornikova and Dina Gallick. 2010. Pictorial Pocket Guide No. 2. National Parks Boards, The Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road, Singapore 259569 ISBN 978-981-08-5988-6.

Jana is a Senior Researcher at the Singapore Botanic Gardens while Dina is the Manager of the Ginger Garden, which embraces more than just Costaceae and Zingiberaceae. Their little pocket guide (fits in your pocket) contains images of Marantaceae, Strelitziaceae, Heliconiaceae, Cannaceae, Musaceae, and Lowiaceae as well as the two ginger families.



Each of the treated species has a photo of the flower and usually plant habit or foliage. The currently accepted botanical name is given as well as a common name, origin, a significant cultural use (if any), plant habit and size, and notes on the discoverer. Obviously, with more than 2500 species in the order, not every ginger relative can be illustrated, but many of the 500+ species in the Singapore Botanic Gardens collection are illustrated, making it valuable for those who have the opportunity to frequent it.

The guide's Introduction briefly describes ginger botany and horticulture; geographic distribution; cultural uses, such as dyes, aromatic oils, medicinal, and culinary; pollination and reproduction; botanical features that distinguish among the families and species; and other potential uses. An index to the gingers and their relatives is color-coded to assist in quickly locating included species. An added bonus is pages illustrating some of the birds that can be encountered in the ginger collection.

## In Passing... Hiroshi Tagami

Hiroshi Tagami peacefully passed away the morning of June 13, 2014. He was 85 years old. He left behind his partner of 28 years, Michael Powell, along with a large, loving extended family. Tagami was a man of many talents. His love of art, botany, wildlife and spirituality all were equally important aspects of his life. Over a 45-year artistic history, Hiroshi sold over 7,000 paintings to art collectors and connoisseurs around the globe. He and his art are well-known in Hawaii. His approach to art was



driven by his wish to give back to the community. Each year he generously supported more than 35 charities in fundraising through art sales. "Part of Hiroshi's magnetism is that he was a very spiritual person, compassionate, gentle and kind," says life partner Powell. Like his life, his art found many forms of expression. It is difficult to separate Hiroshi from his original O'ahu home, the Tagami and Powell Gallery and Gardens in Kāhala'u. It is a beautifully laid-out home featuring a studio and gallery.



Michael Powell and Hiroshi Tagami

It is an artistic statement in itself, a one-acre work of art in three dimensions featuring a wide variety of exotic plants and flowers propagated by Tagami. He traveled around the world to collect rare plants which he introduced to Hawaii. He introduced the large red *Heliconia caribaea* var. *purpurea* to Hawaii gardens, and created hybrid ti plants, day lilies, and anthuriums that are sold worldwide. Species on display at the gardens include bright bromeliads, colorful anthuriums, ornamental gingers, exotic flowering trees from around the world, and lush, fragrant orchids.



## Advertisement

Peruvian Members of International Heliconia Society:

I would like you to look for fresh seeds of *Heliconia subulata* 'Cock of the Rock' from September to December, to send to me, please. The seeds of *Heliconia subulata* 'Cock of the Rock' are ripe in September, October, November, and December, in Cusco, Peru. This cultivar had never been in cultivation before and needs new overseas homes as insurance against extinction. Please contact me before sending me the seeds at:

[subtropicalslorikeet@hotmail.com](mailto:subtropicalslorikeet@hotmail.com)

Clinton Care, 903 Queen Street, Thames, NEW ZEALAND. 3500



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