



Plumeria Potpourri

The Plumeria Society of America, Inc.

October 1999

July Plumeria Show and Sale Saturday, July 17

By Jerry Hurlbert, Chair

The next meeting of the Plumeria Society of America will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 1999, at 7:30 p.m. at the Garden Center in Hermann Park, 1500 Hermann Dr., in Houston.

Anyone with an interest in plumerias is invited to attend.

The PSA plant sales keep getting better every year. Some questioned the wisdom of moving the Clear Lake Sale to a new location since the public had become so accustomed to finding us at the White Top Pavilion. Our Publicity Committee, Chair **Emerson Willis** and associate **Bruce Rankin**, made sure the new location was well publicized.

Our new sale location also turned out to be a hit. Everyone should thank my wife, **Barbara Randolph**, who spent several vacation days searching for a facility that better fit our needs. The Bay Area Community Center turned out to be the perfect choice. Visitors appreciated the air-conditioned comfort and the space to move around and select their plants. Some visitors came back several times and brought different friends and/or neighbors with them because their shopping experience at the Community Center was so pleasant.

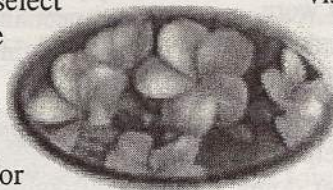
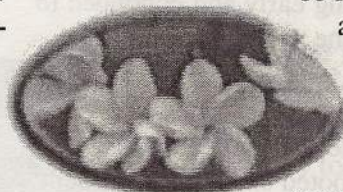
The response to the flower show was more than expected. Everyone

was pleased with all of the different flower varieties that were on display and enjoyed seeing actual blossoms versus photographs in books. New plumeria collectors didn't know that there were

so many ranges of colors and scents. They discovered for the first time that even though they already had a pink or yellow, there were op-

tions for expanding their collection without duplications. Thanks to **Nancy Willis** for making the plumeria name cards and to all of the generous members who brought blossoms for the display tables. **Weldon Mayse** stayed busy throughout the sale talking to the visitors and answering their questions about the displays. He spent the entire day at the flower display conducting a little mini seminar on plumerias to all of our visitors.

We registered more new members at this sale than at any sale in the past. I conducted a telephone survey of the new applicants and asked them what they liked about our event. Some had



(Continued on page 6)

In This Issue:

Research Committee Report	p2	International Committee Report	p7
It Was A Very Good Year — <i>Emerson Willis</i>	p3	The Town Cryer	p11
Plumeria Care Bulletin — Winter Care	p5	Year 2000 PSA Calendar	p11
Plumeria In Print	p6	Plumeria cultivar 'Donald Angus'	insert

Research Committee Report – October 1999

By Milton Pierson

The research committee members are continuing to collect data on projects that are already in progress. We will not have conclusive data for another year or so on some projects such as the study of light on Plumeria in the winter. Preliminary data suggest that we can minimize the dormant period here in sub-tropical climates by over-wintering our Plumeria in a light greenhouse or under high intensity grow lights. The result is that growth and flowering resumes so that we can have blooms as early as February. The effect of extreme temperature variation from hot days to cold nights in the greenhouse is still unclear. Last season, the plants in this study were blooming early and continued to grow and bloom on into the summer.

Experiments with grafting are going well. We find that some commercial growers are already successfully grafting difficult to root Plumeria onto seedling or other easily rooted stalk with excellent results. This technique eliminates the wait time for rooting and allows for quicker distribution of cultivars in demand and low supply. I will add photos and a complete description of the grafting procedure that appears most successful on the web site soon.

Our seedling study is nearly finished after 3 or 4 years of data collection. It appears that the Plumeria seedlings that grew most vigorously were those planted in a soil mix containing added components of peat and vermiculite to the base mix. A conclusive report will be completed soon.

I wish to thank all of you who have helped to make this research very enjoyable by either doing some of the projects or asking questions that prompted serious thought, research, or experimentation on Plumeria plants. I encourage input and ideas from others. If you can help, either write to me via e-mail at miltonp@ruf.rice.edu or to the Plumeria Society of America, Inc., Research Committee, P.O. Box 22791, Houston, Texas 77227-2791 or at my home address 5254 Stillbrooke Dr. Houston, TX 77096-6200, or phone 713-728-2413. The data collected will be presented in a future

PSA newsletter and added to our World Wide Web site located at:

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~miltonp/plumeria/>

The procedural details of each project are located in the PSA WWW site. If you would like to participate in any of these projects, please let me know and we will share ideas. I am also forever open to suggestions about new areas to research.

PLUMERIA OF THE MONTH

This month's selected *Plumeria of the Month* is Plumeria c.v. 'Donald Angus', the 9th in the series. In the past, I have presented Plumeria cultivars 'Pandora', 'Guillot's Sunset', 'Dwarf Singapore Pink', 'Jeannie Moragne', 'Kimo', 'Aztec Gold', 'Grove Farm' and 'Puu Kahea'.

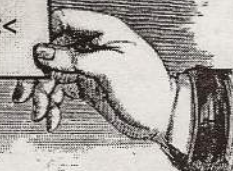
Due to the popularity of this insert, it will continue in future issues, and past issues are now available in Adobe PDF format on our web site. These documents can be viewed with the free software "Acrobat Reader" from Adobe. A link to the Acrobat download site is provided as well.

I would like to thank those of you who have generously provided photographs of named Plumeria cultivars to continue this color insert page. We should be able to continue this color page well into the future.

Members outside the Houston area are invited to send us reports on your experiences growing plumerias in your area.

Let's make plumeria-growing easier for everyone.

>> e-mail MrHibiscus@aol.com <<



It Was A Very Good Year

By Emerson Willis

I don't believe Old Blue Eyes would have objected to this description of my plumeria growing season. In fact, with a little luck another couple of months might be squeezed out of my trees. As the heat lessens and the days shorten, my colors can become confused and sizes might reduce, but the scents and textures remain wonderful. I'm not greedy: I take what I'm given. Many of my new West Coast varieties are blooming and are knock-outs:

San Miguel - Thick branched, large waxy flowers that appear to be orange from a few paces away. Seems to require more water than average.

My Valentine - A very large creamy bloom bordered with a dark pink. Unforgettable scent. Reminds one of a 'Daisy Wilcox', but not as floppy.

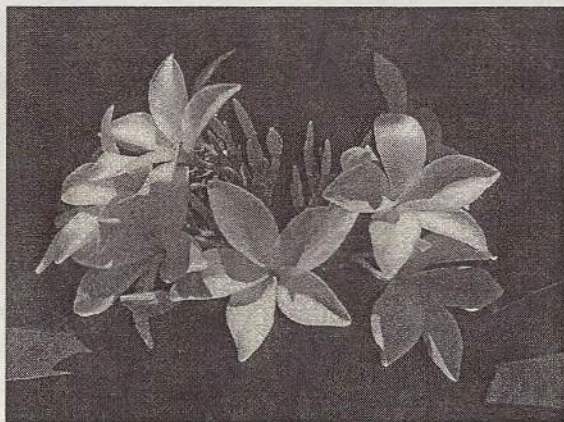
California Sally, AKA, **Bud's Sally** - Not new in our area, but certainly deserves a mention for it is one of my favorites. This tree has it all .. easy to root, drought tolerant, 6" + peachy flowers, heavenly scent, long blooming season, and strong branched.

As usual, late in the season my '**J.L. Starlight**' is making its move, blooming on several tips. This cultivar's flowers do not shrink in the cooler weather. My wife Nancy usually wears one in her hair to our social every year.

The '**Grove Farm**' I bought Nancy a few

years ago (20+ tips) lit up like a Christmas tree this year. If you, dear reader, have never had a sniff of one of these pinks, you truly have my sympathy. It's my belief St. Peter at the Golden Gate, will be wearing a lei of '**Grove Farm**' blooms.

Many of my Elizabeth Thornton cultivars bloomed this year. Two I don't recall mentioning before are '**Gold Dust**' and '**Maverick**' .. both are very nice.



This *Plumeria* is from the Corel Professional Photo CD series—*Tropical Plants*. This is typical of the Mexican-type whites, star-shaped with a small yellow eye.

In the Houston area, this summer was brutal .. temperatures in the upper 90's to over 100, a month and a half without a shower. On the bright side, the heat does bring out the color and the drought keeps the foliage abbreviated allowing the inflorescences more visibility.

Nancy and I took our motor home to the Colorado high country for a month escaping the inferno of our home town. Snow-capped peaks, sweatsuits in the evening, electric blanket every night, crystal clear rushing newborn rivers, pristine lakes, air you can't even see, dazzling wild flowers, trees tall and sturdy up to the timberline. All this and more but not a plumeria in sight. It's a give and take world.

As Publicity Chairman, I was fortunate to have the opportunity to assist in composing sev-

It Was A Very Good Year, continued

(Continued from page 3)

eral published articles in local newspapers along with a couple of my photographs, one of which, in color, was my own registered cultivar 'Ryann Chelsey', named for my grand-daughter. This made me very proud. Because the piece went to press shortly before our second plant sale, it also made me very happy.

Our plant sales this year were expertly coordinated by Jerry Hurlbert assisted by his lovely spouse, Barbara Randolph. My thanks to you both for your time and hard work, and also to our Treasurer, Jim Hill, Mary Lee Lanik and the many volunteers who were so generous with their time and efforts. I love the plant sales. Not only are they a source of fine plants, some of which can't be found elsewhere, but are a gathering of growers with many, many years of experience eager to share their knowledge. My enthusiasm is boundless. I spent 15-minutes explaining to a fellow why it was advantageous for him to purchase a multi-tipped cutting instead of a single tip. All he really came into the building for was to find the bathroom. He didn't know a plumeria from a coconut tree!

I need no calendar to tell me fall is approaching. Some of my trees are dropping yellow leaves. Most of my larger plants are in the ground. Late in October, I will be-

gin to defoliate the ones without blooms. Digging, root pruning, and bagging the roots, I stack and/or hang them in the top of my garage. Extra large trees will just lay in the back yard until the last moment. As the plants remaining bloom out, -- in they come. By the first frost, I probably will not have a dozen blooming trees in the ground. Pots, of course, can be put away at my leisure. At the above-mentioned last moment, I leave one car out, spread a tarp, and Viola, much more room!

There is a new USA 33-cent Chinese Hibiscus stamp available. It is from a photo by Richard and Mary Helen Eggenberger. They, of course, are the authors of The Handbook on Plumeria Culture and The Handbook on Oleander Culture. Richard is a past president of the PSA. And, in case you are wondering, there are no royalties. Oh but what an honor!

Yes, my fellow enthusiasts, it's been a good year for me. But I know with a little sun, water, soil and toil, the year 2000 will be even better.



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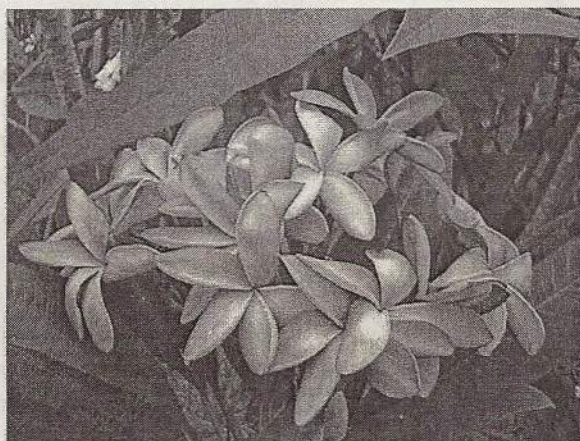
Extra large trees will just lay in the back yard until the last moment.

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Winter Preparation and Storage

By Milt Pierson

With the fall season, days are getting shorter and soon cooler weather will arrive. This is the time to begin thinking about winter storage for plumeria plants. Plumeria are severely damaged if not killed by subfreezing temperatures. The average first frost date for Houston (zone 9) is December 11, meaning that plumeria should be protected well before. When the night temperature is getting below 40F° plumeria should be moved to a location where they will not be subjected to temperatures less than 35F° for the duration of winter. There are two basic methods for over-wintering plumeria, either leave them in pots or bareroot. With either method there may be noticeable shriveling of limbs by spring planting time. For deciduous plants one method of minimizing this shrinkage and reducing leaf cleanup in the storage area is as follows:



An unnamed multi-colored *Plumeria* variety. One of many plants collected by Rick Stone in his travels.

Photo by Rick Stone

- Pick a date to bring plants inside.
- Two or 3 weeks before digging, root prune plants in the ground by cutting vertically (use a sharp shooter or spade) at the perimeter of the root ball.
- One week before, cut all but very top leaves from plumeria about one inch from the limb. These stubs will yellow and fall on their own. (soon there may be a safe chemical defoliant)
- For plants to be left in pots, lift pots from the ground and trim roots back to the weepholes.
- For plants planted in the ground, use a sharp

shooter or spade, dig around each plant and lift from the ground.

- Shake excess soil from plants to be stored bareroot. Some people prefer to place a bag over the rootball, but this is not necessary.
- Place in a protected location (greenhouse, garage, spare room, attic, etc...). If in a garage or greenhouse, it is best to keep the limbs and roots from contact with concrete.
- Pots can be stacked for plants in pots.

- Bare rooted plants can be stored upright, on shelves, or hanging from rafters.

- Try to maintain good air circulation in the storage area to discourage pests.

* Please Note: When it becomes time to re-plant your plumeria in the spring, do not be discouraged with some shriveling of the limbs. While this does occur with all varieties, in

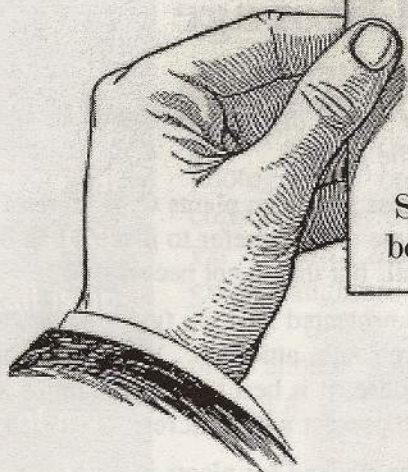
some cases it is quite prominent. Usually when they are planted and watered they will recover nicely.

The Plumeria Society of America expects that you the consumer will carefully follow manufacturers label directions for all chemicals and tools.

last modified July 1, 1997 — by Milton L. Pierson

Research Committee

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JOIN THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY TO-DAY!

Membership costs only \$15.00 per year.
Send your name, mailing address, phone number and a check to the address on the back page.

July Plant Sale

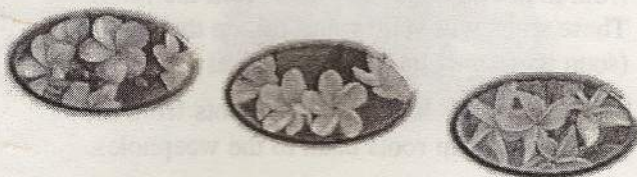
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attended previous sales and some were there for the first time. The survey revealed they liked the space and comfort of our new location. The flower display tables delighted them and they hoped that we would continue having the displays. Many mentioned the generosity of specific sale participants who helped them find the cultivar they were looking for on another table if it wasn't available on theirs.

Thank you, again, **Jim Hill** and **Mary Lee Lanik**, for your continued support as Cashiers. You and the volunteers at the greeting and membership table comprise the first and last impression of the PSA. We appreciate the fact that it is a good one.

As a result of these things, the July 1999 PSA Show & Sale was the most successful one in the history of the Plumeria Society.



Plumerias in Print

SEEN! **Xerox Laser Printer CD** (installation software). The cover of the Jewel Box has a picture of a Xerox Color Laser in action, printing out a picture of a **Rainbow Plumeria** flower. It appears to be **Intense Rainbow** or something very close. **Milt Pierson** got the software with his **NEW PRINTER**. (Everyone who has their own color laser printer, raise their hands...)

SEEN! On E! (the cable TV channel), on the program **Wild on Bali**, we see actress **Jennifer Tilly** floating in a pool with *several thousand plumeria flowers!* They don't show it until about 45 minutes into the program, but they use it in the "and coming up next..." spots a lot. *And it is a bunch of flowers...* Lots of the Balinese people in this hour-long show are seen wearing plumeria flowers—especially **Singapore** and some **Daisy Wilcox**-looking flowers. The show is re-run every few weeks; check your local TV listings—it's usually on after 10 p.m.

Thanks to *somebody* for the above sighting. Where have you seen plumerias around you?? It's *your* turn to send us some sightings...

International Committee Report

By Milton Pierson

The interest in growing Plumeria seems to still be on the rise. The PSA Internet site is still being discovered and visited by hundreds of people each month. Our Web site has now enjoyed over 17000 visits since going online in 1996. This indicates a continued interest in the specific topic of Plumeria.

Each month many new questions come to me from people who have found the PSA Internet site. There is a significant volume of useful information on line; however, not all issues are addressed. I try to answer these questions with the best advice available for the specific situation. This month, I am presenting another group of the questions, comments, and answers provided. Most of the correspondence is from Plumeria growers in the USA; however, there are many Plumeria growers worldwide. I continue to encourage anyone with questions or comments about the culture of Plumeria to e-mail or write them to me. Together we can help each other to better grow and understand these lovely plants.

You may direct questions to me via e-mail at miltonp@ruf.rice.edu and look for answers within the pages of our World Wide Web site:

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~miltonp/plumeria/>

There may be many of you without e-mail or Internet access. I would be happy to answer questions for you as well. Simply write your questions addressed to me at Milton L. Pierson 5254 Stillbrooke Dr. Houston, TX 77096-6200 or call at 713-728-2413. Answers will be provided in a timely fashion which in some cases can be critical to the survival of your Plumeria plants.

Q:

Subject: flowering Plumeria seedling

Hi Milton,

I have a seedling that is only 2 years old and is 19 inches tall. It is flowering (yellow) now for the first time. Everything I read says that they do not flower until they reach 4-6 feet. Is there a way to tell if my seedling is a dwarf tree or do I just have to wait years to watch and find out?

Thanks, *Tina*

PS: I am excited to hear. If it is a dwarf that would

mean that it is the first yellow? Well, I won't get my hopes up. There are 4 branches growing from flower stem so it looks like it will be a nice tree either way.

A:

Hi Tina,

Congratulations on your flowering seedling! This is pretty unusual to have one bloom so young. As for whether or not it is a dwarf, you will need to grow and watch your little Plumeria for a few more years to see if it stays small or takes on the growth characteristics of a normal Plumeria. 4 way branching from the bloom is also exciting on such a young plant. This may help to keep the plant from getting too tall too soon. Do you know what the seed parent is? Good luck with the Plumeria. Let me know what it grows into.

Sincerely, - *Milt*

Q:

Subject: URGENT PROBLEM

Mr. Pierson,

I am new at trying to grow plumerias. This year all of my plumerias bloomed for the first time. But I noticed this morning that ants are running all over the leaves and near the Plumeria trunk. I am so worried if I don't get something sprayed on them today I will lose my beautiful blooms.

What is safe to spray on them? I will run out immediately to get it to save these beautiful flowers.

Do you know of a web site that problems like this can be aired? All the other sites were sales of Plumeria plants.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Teresa

A:

Dear Teresa,

Relax! I have seen ants on my Plumeria before and they seem to do no harm. I think the ants like a sweet secretion that comes from the hairy area at the upper side of the leaf petioles (stems). If you see no visible damage, then my suggestion is to leave them alone. If the ants really appear to be a problem, you can gently spray the infested areas with an insecticidal soap solution or a chemical such as Diazinon. In either case, be sure to read, understand, and follow the label instructions for mixing

International Committee Report, continued

and handling of chemicals. If you err, it is best to over-dilute the stuff than put it on too strong. I burned a lot of my Plumeria leaves one year by accidentally getting Insecticidal Soap mixed too strong. I hope I have helped.

I don't know of a web site that problems like this can be aired as of yet, but soon we will have a forum set up for just this kind of thing. (There is now a site at www.plumeria.org — ed.) Good Luck.

Sincerely, - Milt

Q:

Subject: Thank you!

Dear Mr. P,

We were given a "stick" 2 years ago, and told to plant it...we did, and this summer we were rewarded with the most beautiful flowers (yellow center, white on the outside) imaginable! This neighbor moved away, and we have lost contact with him. Recently, someone trying to sell us shutters told us we had a beautiful "Frangipani" plant. I've looked it up, and believe that we have a Frangipani pudica.

Trying to learn more about this beauty, I came across your Society's notes. I've learned a lot from you, and just wanted to thank you for your kindness in providing this information.

Regards, - Sal, in Florida

A:

Dear Sal,

Thank you for the nice note. I love to see my work go to good use. Plumeria are great. I am glad you have one, and if you are like me, you will probably soon have many more!

Sincerely, - Milt

Q:

Subject: Plumeria Variety Information

Dear Mr. Pierson,

I am hoping you are able to provide me with some information. I have taken a Plumeria cutting from a friend's plant, successfully grown, and produced beautiful flowers. The problem is my friend, and I do not know which variety this belongs. The petals are white and have a streak of a buttery yellow from middle of the inside petals down into the flower. I live in the Tampa Bay Area and the plant has grown incredibly since planted. I am also using Miracle-Gro Plant Food 15-30-15. Any suggestions you could provide would be most appreciated, as the Internet has an overwhelming source on this topic, and is difficult find the information I am seeking.

Thank-you for your time, - Robert

A:

Dear Robert,

It sounds like you have a beautiful Plumeria. Unfortunately, I do not think I can identify the variety based on the information you gave. Can you describe the fragrance? How big are the flowers? Are the petal tips pointed or rounded, do the petals overlap or are they separated? etc... Actually, in addition to knowing the fragrance, a picture would possibly

help as much as anything. The Miracle -Gro Plant Food you use is OK. I imagine you must have a very healthy plant! I hope I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely, - Milt

Q:

Hi,

I hope you can help me with a question I have about one of my Plumeria's. This one is grown from seeds that I purchased in Hawaii. It's approximately 4-5 years old and has just recently developed what looks like peach leaf curl. My others, which I did not grow from seeds don't seem to have this problem. Do you have any idea what this might be, and if so how I can make her better? Any help you can give me is much appreciated. Thank you for your help in advance.

Michelle

(Continued on page 9)



International Committee Report, continued

A:

Hi Michelle,

I just returned from vacation to find a number of unanswered questions. What exactly is peach curl leaf? Are all leaves doing the same thing? I wonder if the plant is responding to a different amount of either fertilizer, heat, sunlight, or water than it was used to. Did you recently repot or move the plant. On the other hand, if this Plumeria is grown from seed, the peach curl leaves may be normal for this particular seedling. Plumeria seedlings commonly show considerable variation in growth characteristics even when seed is grown from the same seed-pod. My suggestion is to carefully monitor the plant and be sure the water, food, and light are OK. It keeps green leaves while actively growing, then it is probably OK as long as you are sure there are no insect pests as well. I hope I have helped!

Sincerely, - Milt

Q:

Hi Milton,

Peach Leaf Curl is what happens to peach & nectarine trees. The leaf kind of curls and crinkles, then it turns yellow/brown and dies. In my previous message I had said my others didn't seem to have this problem, but my husband just noticed yesterday that one more plant is developing the same problem. This is not seed grown. I was also wondering, the home grown one is approximately 4 feet tall and still hasn't produced any flowers. Is this common in home grown plants? I hope that the problem reverses soon (leaf curl) so that I don't lose this plant after so many years.

Thank you for getting back to me - I appreciate it! Bye for now.

Michelle

A:

Hi Michelle,

The curl you describe may be a result of uneven watering. I have Plumeria that will get puffy looking leaves from time to time. It appears that the cells between veins grow more than the main veins. I think this happens

when a Plumeria is on the dry side as new leaves are forming and growing. Then, when the plant receives adequate water, the intervein cells grow to their normal size, but the vein cells do not elongate to their normal size because they formed under drought conditions. The result is a funny looking leaf. Is this what you have? The other thing to look for is microscopic pests such as spider mites. Spider mites can be controlled with a daily misting or soaking of the leaves and growing point with water.

Cheers, - Milt

Q:

Hi Milt,

You know the more I look at the leaves, the more it does look like what you described. It looks like stunted growth on one side of the leaf - creating a curly, puffy look. I have them in direct sunlight in the front of the house. They get almost a full days sun. We've been getting some pretty hot weather her in San Diego County lately, how would you suggest that I water them? Thanks for all your help. Talk to you soon.

Michelle

A:

Dear Michelle,

How are the Plumeria looking now? Hope they are adjusting to the hot dry conditions. You may have to water them every day either with a soaker hose or at least enough to thoroughly soak the root zone when the weather is so hot and dry. Morning may be the best time if you can. Do you have them in the ground or in pots?

Lots of luck. - Milt

Q:

Subject: Broken Branches

I have a quick question for you...I hope you don't mind. Last week during the storm, I had several large branches break off of my Plumeria. I'm not sure what to do with the branches. It is too early to store for next

(Continued on page 10)



Plumeria Potpourri

International Committee Report, continued

spring or should I just stick them in a pot for indoors through the winter. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely, - *Kris*

A:

Hi Kris,

I think it would be good to trim the leaves and dip the end in a rooting compound. After a week or so, I suggest going ahead and potting up into pure perlite to allow roots to form if they will. Bring them in when temperatures begin to drop this fall but try to keep them in a sunny and warm location. It is still a long time until next spring and the cuttings may suffer if you try to store now for next spring. Hope this helps.

Sincerely, - *Milt*

Q:

Subject: sick Plumeria

I have a very sick Plumeria. I think at one point I watered it too much, which caused the trunk of the plant to become somewhat mushy. I still have new growth and healthy leaves, but the trunk won't harden back up to the strength it was at before. Is there anything I can do?

Clyde

A:

Hi Clyde,

I am sorry to hear about the sick Plumeria. I think that at this point patience is going to be in order. You may want to gently prod around in the pot or unpot and look at the roots. If they have rotted completely, then allow the roots to dry a few days, then plant in fresh very well draining potting soil. If the roots appear to be ok, then let the soil dry, but not completely, then only water sparingly. You may need to move the Plumeria to a location where rain will not soak the roots. Good luck! Let me know how it goes.

Sincerely, - *Milt*

Q:

Subject: Plumeria growth in winter

I enjoyed your web page and have recently purchased several plumerias for the first time. I live in Northeast Florida and we experience freezes so I have kept the plants in pots on my back deck. I understand the trees go dormant in the winter. I heard they could be

kept growing all year if kept under a light continuously in the winter to simulate south pacific conditions. I was wondering if you had any experience with this and if so what type of lighting is required? Fluorescent or floodlights? Any help you may offer would be appreciated.

A:

Hi,

Congratulations on your Plumeria! Thank you for enjoying the web site. It is true that Plumeria go dormant in the winter and this rest period is an important part of the life process in Plumeria just as it is in many other plants. We have discovered that you can encourage Plumeria to retain leaves and have a shorter dormant period with lights. A fellow researcher here in Houston has found that Quartz Halogen lights work well for this purpose. He had Plumeria in full bloom in his greenhouse by late February this year. Another grower in England is successfully growing Plumeria indoors using both Mercury vapor and Sodium vapor lights. Grow lights might work, but the luminosity may not be high enough unless you use a bunch of them and keep the bulbs within 6 inches of the foliage. This is an area that I am currently trying to research and will hopefully know more later. I hope I have been helpful.

Sincerely, - *Milt*

Q:

Hi, I just bought a Plumeria palm and planted it in a sheltered corner area adjacent to my house facing south-south west. It doesn't get full sun more than 3 hours or so per day but will get filtered sun during the later afternoon hours. . Will it survive here if I leave it planted in the ground through winter?

Thanks, - *James*

A:

Hi James,

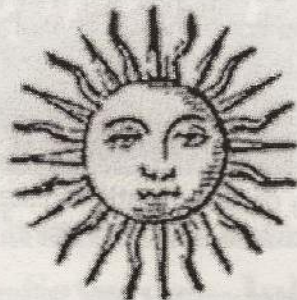
Welcome to the world of Plumeria. It sounds like you have it planted in an OK place, but the sun is probably at a minimum for best plant growth and flowering. If you live in Houston, you will still need to protect the Plumeria in the winter. I suggest bringing it indoors or into a garage that will not freeze for the winter months then put it back out in the spring when danger of frost is past. Good Luck.

Sincerely, - *Milt*

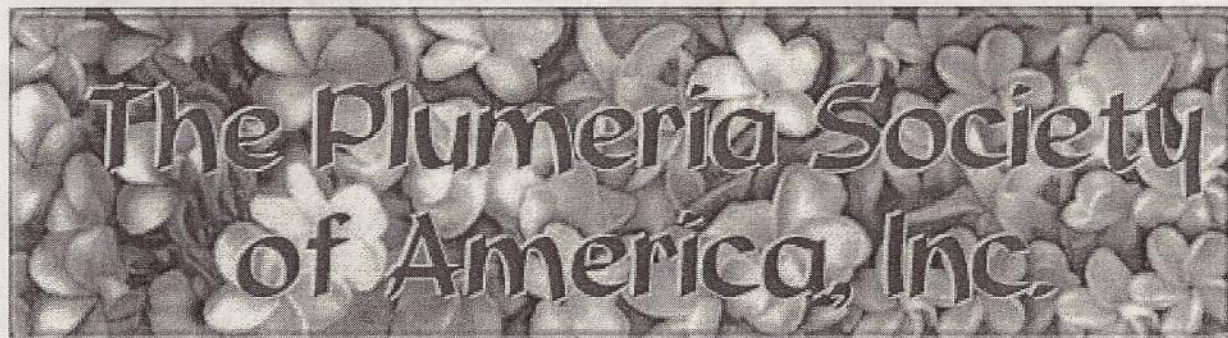
Don't forget — Elections will be held at the January 11, 2000 meeting, so be there if you want your voice to count.

Meeting starts at 7:30.

Lots of folks show up early for the meetings lately, so be one of them ...



THE
TOWN CRYER

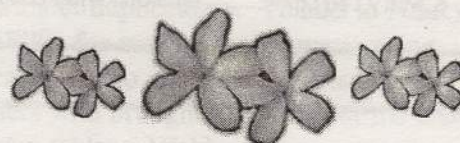


The address of the newer PSA web site is:

<http://www.ThePlumeriaSociety.org>

The site is still being filled out, but you can get a general idea of where it's headed.

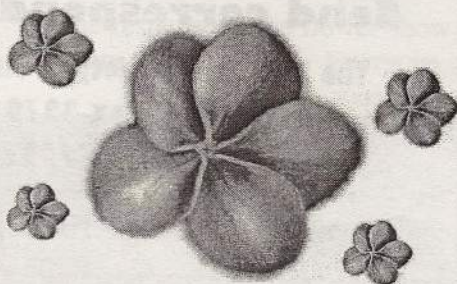
If you have ideas for the future of the web site, e-mail to the address at the site.



Year 2000 Calendar

January 11meeting
March 14meeting
May 9meeting
June __Plant Sale I
July 11meeting
July __Plant Sale II
October 10meeting

Officer elections will be held at the January meeting.



Plumeria Potpourri

Plumeria Society Web Site

You can find additional information concerning The Plumeria Society of America and culture of Plumeria plants on the World Wide Web at the following address:

<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~miltonp/plumeria/>

These pages contain information on the following:

A listing of all currently registered cultivars
Cultural tips and hints for raising plumeria plants

PLEASE COPY THIS PAGE - GIVE TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN PLUMERIAS



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1999 Calendar

January 12 meeting
March 9 meeting
May 11 meeting
June 12 Plant Sale I
July 13 meeting
July 17 Plant Sale II
October 2 PSA Social
October 12 meeting

All regular meetings held at
Houston Garden Center in
Hermann Park, 1500 Hermann
Dr., Houston, at 7:30 p.m.

Visitors are invited and encouraged to attend.

Plumeria Society of America, Inc.

OFFICERS 1999

Richard Miller President
Weldon Mayse Vice-President
Jim Hill Treasurer
Ada Ganze Secretary
E. J. Lanik Past President

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Plumeria 'DONALD ANGUS'

By Milton L. Pierson

The Plumeria c.v. 'Donald Angus' is one of the original 51 named cultivars to be registered by the Plumeria Society of America, Inc in the 1980s. 'Donald Angus' was released by the Department of Horticulture, College of Tropical Agriculture in 1970 as a new cultivar with large bunches of red flowers of good lei quality and was recommended for home gardens and commercial orchards. The seed parent is

'Common Yellow' but the pollen parent is unknown. The flowers average 3" (7.5 cm) in diameter and have wide, rounded, overlapping petals with upturned edges. The blossom color is changeable, at first appearing solid red-purple with wide strong red bands on front and back. The color on top is orange red for the center third (base of petal), then white toward the tip. The entire petal is overlaid with red-purple in varying intensities becoming an intense stripe on the right. P.'Donald Angus' is highly influenced by temperature. During very hot weather it is nearly a solid red-purple and lighter colored in cooler temperatures. Viewed from the bottom, the left half is red-purple, then red-purple with white veins to the right side. The flower texture is medium to heavy with a good keeping quality.



Fig. 1. Individual floret viewed from the front. (Photo by Glen Stokes)



Fig. 2. Photo of an entire inflorescence. (Photo by Rick Stone)

The tendency to fade is moderate. Petal type is moderately overlapping wide oval with a rounded tip. Fragrance is spicy and fruity and intensity of fragrance is mild to strong.

Leaves are light green with a reddish border and have a rigid texture. They are oblanceolate in shape with an acuminate tip and average 25.5 cm in length and 8.5 cm wide. Leaf petioles are green with a red tint.

The plant is deciduous with fair branching and an upright, slightly rangy but dense growth habit. Its tendency to set seed is profuse.

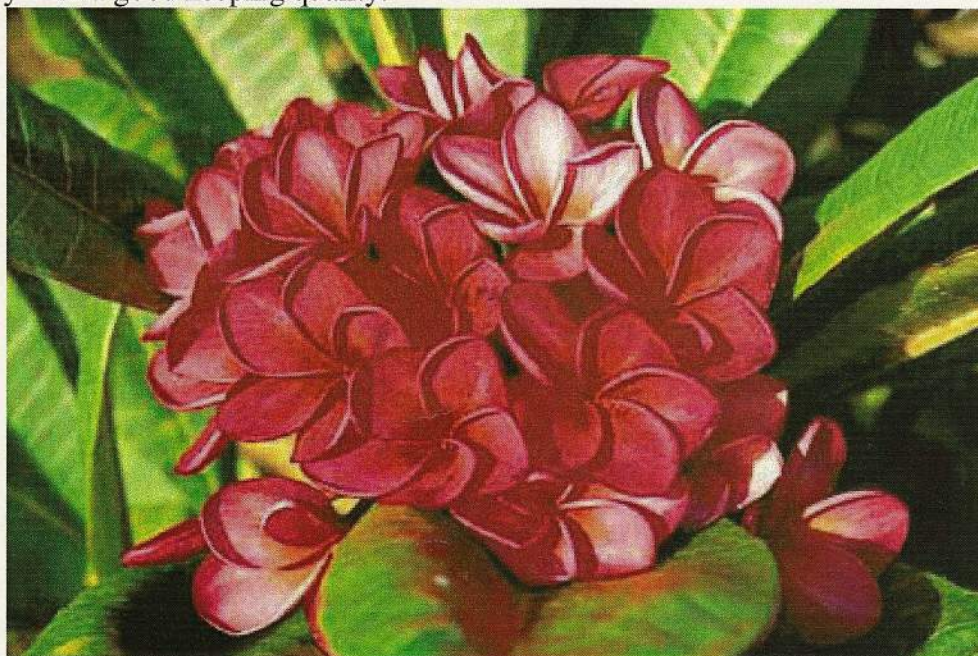


Fig. 3. Photo of an entire inflorescence. (Photo by Alan Bunch, *The Exotic Plumeria*)