



Plumeria

Potpourri

THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

APRIL, 1983

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday June ~~13~~ 14, 1983

7:30 PM

St. Philips Presbyterian Church

4807 San Felipe

DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!!

NOTICE OF NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS

The new officers for the coming year are as follows:

President - Pili Oliver

Vice Pres.- Richard Eggenberger

Secretary - Janelle Mercer

Treasurer - Arthur Usher

The Society is fortunate to have this dedicated leadership for the coming year. Their interest and endeavor indicate great things coming up for the Society, however they need your help and support. All victories and achievements are the result of a team effort. "Hey gang" - let's all get on the team!

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Publicity - Sally Squire

Research - Ken Duff

Membership - Daphne Sealey

Program - Gloria Glenney

Registration- Elizabeth Thornton

Newsletter - David Emison

GROWERS NEWS "DEPARTMENT"

Gloria Glenney has cuttings that came for Africa, and Betty Andrews aquired some from faraway Tahiti! How about that all you growers. We will all be anxious to hear from you both regards these trees, and by the way, how about a cutting or a seed or two in 1990?

One of our members has friends who live in Mexico City and they report problems there with their plumeria. Their plants began to lose leaves, bloom color, and then went into a general state of deep shock. The environment was one which subjected them to heavy freeway air pollution. Upon removal of the trees to another home in a rural area, they immediately recovered fully and are flourishing. Lesson? Plumeria are probably one of the more sensitive plants to air pollution.

Anyone else know of good news items? Call us!

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS "DEPARTMENT"

We in the Society do hope that when you can ever be in the Houston area that it could be at a time of one of our meetings. It would be great to have you with us. Also, we hope that you will contact us with any news items, progress with your plants and any questions that you may have. If any of you have a plant which has not been developed and named in Hawaii, we would assist you in identification. The following is a list of publications that are helpful in growing the beautiful plumeria and are offered for your information:

"The Exotic Plumeria (Frangipani)" by Elizabeth Thornton, \$4.50

"University of Hawaii Bulletin 158", contains many color pictures of cultivars, \$2.25 plus 50¢ postage

"Pantone Color Code", used for official color in registry, \$2.00 plus 50¢ postage

All of the above can be obtained by writing to Elizabeth Thornton, 2121 San Felipe, Suite 111, Houston, Texas 77019.

"Hawaiian Plumerias University of Hawaii Circular 410", a pamphlet, write to University of Hawaii, College of Tropical Agriculture Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. (NOTE: this bulletin also contains where to order several good publications)

ADVANCE NOTICE! PARTY!

Plans are in the making for a mid-summer get-together. Hold late July for this event until our planners Vicki Jackson, Marvy Correa and committee finish details. More later on this.

REGISTRATION "DEPARTMENT"

Elizabeth Thornton reports that significant progress is being made toward registration. Of most interesting note is that the Royal Botanical Gardens of Canada informed Elizabeth that they learned of our using the Pantone Color Code and they are considering it for their official code in registration of lilacs. How about that!, and by the way, thank you Nancy Ames for introducing the Pantone to us.

COMING EVENTS

The Society will have a flower show next June 19, 10AM to 4PM at the Houston Arboretum. This will be a show only and not a sale. More about this next month.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

As the Plumeria Society of America begins its fifth year of operation, I think we can all look back with pride at the accomplishments to date. First of all, founding an organization to study and publicize this beautiful tropical plant after its several hundred years of known existence. And not the least of which has been becoming the recognized worldwide authority for registering cultivars. The pioneers of our fledgling society are due much thanks for their endless hours of work bringing us this far.

There is still much to be learned about plumerias, their history and development, their culture and propagation. Steps then must be taken towards recording and sharing this knowledge around the world. I look forward to a year of active and exciting participation towards helping in whatever way we can to accomplish these goals.

Your board of directors, who have charge of management and direction of the society, have already held their first meeting and are most enthusiastic in wanting to make this a challenging year for all. I am sure they will be pleased to hear your comments, suggestions or questions at any time. Just give us a call or drop us a line. A special note to our many associate members -- we'd love to hear from you and learn of your progress in growing plumerias and of any special problems you may have in your geographic area.

On a personal note. Being a native of Hawaii, the plumeria is very dear to me. It has been a part of my life since early childhood. How well I remember climbing plumeria trees to pick their blossoms for some happy event. I learned fast to step gingerly on the more fragile limbs since occasionally a quick snap would find me picking myself up off the ground. Such pleasant memories when the precious blossoms were first soaked in cool water and then strung into leis or arranged as decorations for festive occasions. Imagine tent poles being completely covered with fragrant plumeria and tables beautifully laden with plumeria centerpieces for an island luau; the guests wearing plumeria leis and ladies with blossoms in their hair. The perfume of the blossoms completely filled the air! In steamship days we greeted arrivals at Honolulu's famed Pier 10 in the morning or said aloha to departing friends at sailing time late afternoon with plumeria leis. This custom still remains for today's arrivals and departures at Honolulu International Airport.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTD.

These are just a fragment of memories but precious ones indeed and the basis for my wanting to do whatever possible to promote plumerias through our society to all who are interested.

From the amateur gardner who simply wants to learn how to grow plumerias from cuttings or seedlings, to the professional interested in delving into the more technical aspects of plumeria culture, we have one common bond - - that beautiful flower that sooner or later finds a very special place in your heart.

I look forward to a good year. It's a pleasure to serve.

Pili Oliver

FROM THE EDITOR

What more can be said following that message except, "thank you Pili".

Ed.