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Plumeria Potpourri

www.theplumeriasociety.org

Come to the October 11th meeting!

Tuesday, October 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, Texas

... anyone with an interest in plumeria is invited to attend ...

ANNUAL SOCIAL and MEETING

Speaker: **Scott Lawder**

Growing Plumeria in Less Than Ideal Conditions

Scott Lawder has been growing plumerias in the cold climate of Kansas City in greenhouses and under lights for 30 years.

He has huge 17-foot giant trees in containers and has one of the largest, cold climate collections in the world.

Scott has taught adult education classes on tropical gardening at the University of Missouri/Kansas City, and was the a founding member of the first worldwide plumeria Internet group—The Plumeria Pals.

He has spoken to societies in Texas and California about his methods for success—methods he has developed by spending thousands of hours trying new things, experimenting, and tinkering with new methods reported by others. His goal has been always the pursuit of best practices for the optimum results.

Scott is familiar with all aspects of plumeria culture in cold climates from blooming to choosing the best container mixes. He is also very familiar with disease prevention.



Meeting and Social Schedule

Set up:	7:00 to 7:30 p.m.
Dinner:	7:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Scott Lawder:	8:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Door prizes:	9:00 p.m. ...

The Plumeria Society of America, Inc.

October 2016

President's Corner

by Mark Wright, Texas (wright5447@sbcglobal.net)

I know Fall is coming because our back yard is full of hummingbirds, it's dark again when I leave for work, and no matter how often I remove yellow leaves, the plumerias are now variegated—a polite way of describing rust-covered leaves. If all this is happening, why is it 96° F. and 73% relative humidity every day? It must be global warming. That's what the Internet says, so it must be true.

With this type of weather, people will be growing plumerias in Kansas around the wheat and corn fields. All joking aside, many of us know a guy that grows plumeria in Kansas now! We are very happy to have Scott Lawder coming to speak at our October 11th meeting. Don't think that what he does to be successful in Kansas doesn't apply to what many of us here have to do. Growing in colder climates may be applied to all of us who must protect our plants in the winter from the wet and cold. In general, plumeria tolerate cool and dry much better than cool and wet. Winter storage is 6–8 weeks

away for most of us in the Gulf Coast area, and this is a golden opportunity to learn some valuable tips for storing and growing.

The October meeting is our last for this year and will also be our annual social. This year it will be a potluck dinner. Drinks and cutlery will be provided as well as the meat dish—pulled pork. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Bring your blooms to display for everyone to admire the fantastic colors we get in the early Fall. If you're like me, I have so many new inflos coming out now that I want to see bloom; it's a race with time. And please bring door prizes.

Last but not least, I know many of you (myself included) have expressed continued disappointment with the progress of the new website. We plan to devote lots of what becomes down time for plumeria growers in the winter to work on the site.

Have a safe and happy holiday season, and we'll be in touch again in January.



“Garden Club” Meeting Erupts into Melee; 187 Injured

Anaheim, CA, USA – Anaheim police must have thought it was a joke, but it wasn't funny for long. Police were called to a disturbance at an Anaheim church on State College Blvd., where an unspecified dispute had arisen at a contest conducted by the staid-sounding South Coast Plumeria Society. When it was over, it took nearly 1,000 officers in full riot gear, backed by horses, tear gas, and water cannon to restore order to a bewildering collection of disputes authorities are still trying to sort out.

A humorous account of a South Coast Plumeria Society meeting, August 7, 2016 by C.d. Larson



Officers are still reviewing surveillance footage, but apparently the problems first arose in a dispute over a popular member known by the moniker *Celadine*. One person insisted *Celadine* was white, another insisted he (or she) was yellow. Police originally believed this was a racial dispute, but have since discarded this theory. Apparently the disagreement grew heated, with one denouncing another for a “lack of Aloha” and the other calling the first a “NOID.”

From that fuse, fault lines within the organization broke wide open along lines detectives have enlisted local university botany departments to understand. A group called the “Registered Cultivars” squared off against the working class “NOID” faction, and chaos broke loose. An old guard group advocating a philosophy called High Middle Number N-P-K tried to rein in an unbelieving younger group, but their defiance only grew stronger. Sticks, the group’s ubiquitous weapon of choice, were soon flying, and police called for backup from as many as 17 neighboring agencies as attendees called each other “Spray-n-Hoes,” “Rust,” and “Spider Mites,” denouncing each others’ “short green cuttings.”

Tensions were apparently running high as the group held a contest of some sort, pitting “Whites” against “Yellows,” “Reds,” “Pinks,” and “Rainbows.” Police originally believed these names referred to racial and LGBT groups, but could not explain another group called “Fragrance” and eventually gave up in frustration. Gang D\ detail officers’ attempts to segregate groups by their brightly colored shirts were fruitless in the flurry of loud floral patterns. Injuries mounted, eventually totaling 150 “plumerians” and 37 police officers.

Order was only restored when one of the officers convinced the group’s spiritual leader, known to devotees as “Bud,” to issue a “Call to Aloha.” Bud promised the attendees “thick, gray cuttings” of his “latest cool variety” and police were finally able to gain the upper hand.

At press time, investigators were still trying to estimate the total dollar value of damages, which were still feeling the effects of lingering hostility. Seller Irene Konishi denounced “Orange County Cactus-Mixers” who “think coir is something that sings at church and refuse to pay properly for the excellent product I’ve spent years growing.” Police investigators, meanwhile, continue to consult botanists and other experts to sort out the frightening melee. *Celadine*, reportedly a Central American native, remains at large. An Interpol alert has gone out to police agencies throughout the subtropics and tropics as far afield as Australia and Sicily, warning authorities to pay close attention to “plumeria” groups.

A Plumeria Love Affair

by Barbara Randolph, Texas

My love affair with plumeria began in 1978 when a neighbor gave me a cutting from her beautiful tree. She said it was a “plumeria or frangipani” and finding any at the local nurseries was impossible. I learned of the PSA in 1984 and immediately bought Elizabeth Thornton’s book. What luck, my first plumeria had a name, and it was *Slaughter Pink*. I was fascinated that plumerias can be grown spring through fall and stored in the garage for the winter.

Jerry and I went to Hawaii in 1986 and couldn’t believe our eyes—plumeria were everywhere, and I was in Heaven. We found named cuttings from Jim Little in the gift shop at Foster Botanical Gardens and returned home with those as well as cuttings from generous residents.

The lovely *Barbados Apricot Brandy* and



Barbados Showgirl were found in 1987 in Barbados, West Indies. We named and registered those in honor of the residents who shared cuttings.



Barbados Showgirl is also known as *Confetti*, but the PSA registered name is *Barbados Showgirl*.

One that we didn’t register came from St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands in 1988. It was a huge tree next to a small church. When the service ended, we found an old gentleman who understood English. He didn’t say much when I asked for a cutting, but he returned with the biggest machete I had ever seen. I was relieved when he chopped a branch and handed it to me. We named it *St. Croix Honeysuckle*, and it was widely distributed by that name. Later I learned the same cultivar was referred to as *San Germain*.

Summer Spice and *Scarlet Knight* were found during a 1989 trip to Hawaii, and they were registered in 2002 and 2004, respectively.



Scarlet Knight is well-known in California as *Wildfire* but the PSA registered name is *Scarlet Knight*.

Collecting plumeria is a hobby that can grow out of control. At one time we had 200 various-sized plants, most of them large trees. That was fun during the temperate months, but not so much during winter storage. As the years rolled by, it became

imperative to downsize. Now, approximately 30 container-grown cultivars decorate the yard, and they are rolled into the garage for winter storage. Winter storage isn't an issue these days, but the blistering heat of July through September takes a toll on the health of the plumeria. They are moved to any shady spot to avoid the west sun. It's clear that I need to make some hard choices about what to eliminate next. I prefer plumeria with compact growth and overlapping petals. Scent is a bonus but unnecessary as long as it stays compact for my container growing requirements.

February/March is a good time to root prune and shape the trees. I water the pots thoroughly and wait a couple of weeks before making cuttings.

Everyone has a favorite soil formula depending on the method of growing. Since mine are all in pots, I mix one large bag of Miracle Grow potting soil with 25% coarse perlite. This mix works well for container growing and creates lots of air space for the roots. The formula isn't as important as creating air space, so do what works for you.

Water the pots thoroughly for a couple of weeks, then apply a dose of root stimulator or SUPERthrive®. When plants begin leafing, fertilize with water soluble Carl Pool BR-61 (9-58-8) or Scott's Super Bloom (12-55-6) for immediate use and slow release for continuous feed. I use Nelson's Nutri-Star Plumeria Food (5-30-5) or Excalibur (11-11-13) that is sold exclusively by Florida Colors Nursery.

The final step is to top dress the pots with Cypress NoFloat Mulch (available at Home Depot) to avoid the messy debris spilling onto the patio, sidewalk, or driveway when watering.

I enjoy all the articles about grafting but haven't taken the time to graft. It's on my "to do" list but never seems to become a priority. Don't plant seeds—been there, done that. Out of the hundreds of seedlings I've grown over the years, only one plant stood out as worthy of registration. My standard is that if it isn't exceptional, it needs a new home.

However, a seedling grown in 1990 was different. I grew it for several years pondering an appropriate name for the unusual butterscotch color. During one of my strolls through the garden, the name *Heirloom* came to mind, and it was registered in 2002. *Heirloom* is the perfect container plumeria with its compact growth, and blooms on short tips. The reddish foliage is beautiful even when not in bloom.

We live in exciting times. In my day, newsletters were prepared on an electric typewriter, and one couldn't find plumeria unless they were brought back from Hawaii or islands in the Caribbean. The World Wide Web has expanded plumeria collecting with a few keystrokes. Facebook allows us to communicate with friends everywhere and share photos and experiences in our different growing conditions. How amazing is that?



PSA 2016 Survey reported on in a PowerPoint presentation by Mark Wright

FAVORITE CULTIVARS



64 Surveys Completed

- 48 surveys were completed at the PSA's May 10, 2016 meeting.
- 16 surveys were completed at the IPC in May.
 - Of those, 7 were from the U.S. (4 from Florida and 1 each from Alabama, Arizona and California).
 - Two surveys were completed from members in Australia, 1 from France, and 6 unmarked.

Houston Area Top 5

- #1 *Lemon Drop* (27)
- #2 *Aztec Gold* (25)
- #3 *Penang Peach* (21)
- #4 *Mardi Gras* (19)
- #5 *Raspberry Sundae* (14)
Slaughter Pink (14)

For *Lemon Drop* You Answered ...

1. **How grown?**
 - In the ground—11
 - **In a container—14**
2. **How often fertilized?**
 - More than once a month—2
 - Every month—8
 - **Less than every month (6-9 months time release ?)—15**
3. **Characteristic growth pattern for you**
 - Dwarf—0
 - Compact—3
 - **Medium and well branched—21**
 - Tall and less branched—0
4. **How difficult is it for you to root?**
 - **Easy—16**
 - Good—7
 - Hard—0
 - Difficult to impossible—0



Lemon Drop

5. **The tree's best characteristics**
 - Size of flower—2
 - **Duration of blooming cycle—11**
 - Growth Pattern—2
 - **Number of inflos—11**
6. **Which feature do you think best?**
 - **Flower—18**
 - Fragrance—8
7. **Is this tree prone to rust for you?**
 - Yes—5
 - **No—18**
8. **Is this cultivar prone to black-tip for you?**
 - Yes—1
 - **No—22**

For *Aztec Gold* You Answered ...

1. **How grown?**
 - In the ground—8
 - **In a container—14**
2. **How often fertilized**
 - More than once a month—4
 - Every month—8
 - **Less than every month (6-9 months time release ?)—12**
3. **Characteristic growth pattern for you**
 - Dwarf—0
 - Compact—1
 - Medium and well branched—10
 - **Tall and less branched—13**
4. **How difficult is it for you to root?**
 - **Easy—17**
 - Good—5
 - Hard—1
 - Difficult to impossible—0



Aztec Gold

5. **The tree's best characteristics**
 - Size of flower—8
 - **Duration of blooming cycle—8**
 - Growth Pattern—1
 - Number of inflos—6
6. **Which feature do you think best?**
 - Flower—11
 - **Fragrance—19**
7. **Is this tree prone to rust for you?**
 - Yes—5
 - **No—13**
8. **Is this cultivar prone to black-tip for you?**
 - Yes—1
 - **No—18**

For *Penang Peach* You Answered ...

1. **How grown?**
 - In the ground—7
 - In a container—12
2. **How often fertilized**
 - More than once a month—1
 - Every month—6
 - Less than every month (6-9 months time release ?)—13
3. **Characteristic growth pattern for you**
 - Dwarf—1
 - Compact—9
 - Medium and well branched—9
 - Tall and less branched—1
4. **How difficult is it for you to root?**
 - Easy—12
 - Good—5
 - Hard—0
 - Difficult to impossible—1



5. **The tree's best characteristics**
 - Size of flower—1
 - Duration of blooming cycle—7
 - Growth Pattern—5
 - Number of inflos—9
6. **Which feature do you think best?**
 - Flower—12
 - Fragrance—12
7. **Is this tree prone to rust for you?**
 - Yes—5
 - No—11
8. **Is this cultivar prone to black-tip for you?**
 - Yes—0
 - No—18

For *Mardi Gras* You Answered ...

1. **How grown?**
 - In the ground—11
 - In a container—8
2. **How often fertilized**
 - More than once a month—0
 - Every month—7
 - Less than every month (6-9 months time release ?)—10
3. **Characteristic growth pattern for you**
 - Dwarf—0
 - Compact—0
 - Medium and well branched—16
 - Tall and less branched—1
4. **How difficult is it for you to root?**
 - Easy—11
 - Good—5
 - Hard—0
 - Difficult to impossible—0



5. **The tree's best characteristics**
 - Size of flower—1
 - Duration of blooming cycle—9
 - Growth Pattern—1
 - Number of inflos—2
6. **Which feature do you think best?**
 - Flower—15
 - Fragrance—3
7. **Is this tree prone to rust for you?**
 - Yes—4
 - No—9
8. **Is this cultivar prone to black-tip for you?**
 - Yes—1
 - No—14

For *Raspberry Sundae* You Answered ...

1. **How grown?**
 - In the ground—8
 - In a container—5
2. **How often fertilized**
 - More than once a month—1
 - Every month—4
 - Less than every month (6–9 months time release ?)—9
3. **Characteristic growth pattern for you**
 - Dwarf—0
 - Compact—1
 - Medium and well branched—11
 - Tall and less branched—1
4. **How difficult is it for you to root?**
 - Easy—8
 - Good—3
 - Hard—1
 - Difficult to impossible—0



5. **The tree's best characteristics**
 - Size of flower—8
 - Duration of blooming cycle—4
 - Growth Pattern—3
 - Number of inflos—2
6. **Which feature do you think best?**
 - Flower—12
 - Fragrance—2
7. **Is this tree prone to rust for you?**
 - Yes—6
 - No—9
8. **Is this cultivar prone to black-tip for you?**
 - Yes—0
 - No—11

For *Slaughter Pink* You Answered ...

1. **How grown?**
 - In the ground—3
 - In a container—10
2. **How often fertilized**
 - More than once a month—1
 - Every month—5
 - Less than every month (6–9 months time release ?)—7
3. **Characteristic growth pattern for you**
 - Dwarf—0
 - Compact—2
 - Medium and well branched—7
 - Tall and less branched—2
4. **How difficult is it for you to root?**
 - Easy—11
 - Good—1
 - Hard—0
 - Difficult to impossible—0



5. **The tree's best characteristics**
 - Size of flower—1
 - Duration of blooming cycle—9
 - Growth Pattern—3
 - Number of inflos—3
6. **Which feature do you think best?**
 - Flower—7
 - Fragrance—7
7. **Is this tree prone to rust for you?**
 - Yes—3
 - No—8
8. **Is this cultivar prone to black-tip for you?**
 - Yes—0
 - No—14

Counting Up to the “Top Ten”

***Hilo Beauty* (11)**

***Jeannie Moragne* (10)**

***Pudica* (6)**

***Dwarf Pink Singapore* (5)**



IPC Favorites

***Aztec Gold* (5)**

***Jeannie Moragne* (4)**

***Musk Rainbow* (3)**

***Bill Moragne, Candy Stripe,
Celadine, Golden Noi,
Mango Blush, Pop's Red,
Singapore, and Wildfire* (2 each)**

In Conclusion

Many of the favorite cultivars chosen from our area reflect the following:

- We are closely divided between in ground and in pot.
- We prefer varieties that do well when taken in for the winter.
- We generally prefer varieties that do not get too tall and “leggy” (unless the flower or scent are outstanding!).
- Many of us are moving to the more compact varieties becoming available.

A Mighty Good Year (so far)

by Emerson Willis, Texas

Nancy and I would like to share a few of our highlights of 2016, beginning with the article of a few issues ago, “Plumies and Caterpillars” describing a new concrete street and sidewalks replacing our asphalt road and drainage ditches here in our very old neighborhood. Another contractor later placed two street lights in every block. We were a little apprehensive with the prospect of 125 feet of walkway so very close to the plumerias. You can understand a little of the “Plumeria Paranoia” going on here I’m sure. As our season’s end grows near, we have only had one incident to speak of. A young fellow pinched a leaf to pull it off



when off came the entire single tip. His second strike of bad luck was that I was sitting on my park bench looking directly at him. For a geezer I covered quite a bit of ground rapidly frightening the poor kid something awful. It was but an accident, and he felt terrible. I calmed down and explained no harm was done as long as I knew which tree it

was, and I would just pot it, etc. If I miss more tips any time soon, I know I gave him a nice lesson on propagation—just kidding.

In February, Nancy and I left the motor home on spot in our RV park in Marathon, Florida Keys, and sailed out of Ft. Lauderdale on a Panama Canal cruise. For us the highlight of the voyage wasn’t the big ditch, even though it was quite impressive to be sure. Nancy had signed us on for the vow renewal package. Believe me, it was worth every penny. There were five other couples included, but as it turned out the captain chose our actual anniversary for the ceremony. It was so nice I’m planning to do it again in 50 years.

One of our ports of call was Curacao, Dutch West Indies, where I had signed on for a snorkel dive. It was a very nice outing, and the water was gin clear. One of the tour operator’s mom loves plumerias, so I gave him a *Pink Nova* cutting for her. I carried one without leaves, roots, soil, and scrubbed clean deep in my luggage ... accidentally.

In May, we attended the International Plumeria Conference in the beautiful city of Naples, Florida. It was so nice seeing old friends and meeting new ones. I couldn’t help but wonder what Elizabeth Thornton and the other cofounders of the PSA would

think about plumeria people from all over the country and the world convening under one roof to discuss our mutual love of this captivating tree ... for the second time!

For years Nancy and I have visited Florida Colors Nursery located near the jumping off point to the Keys. Sometimes we would stop on the way in, sometime on the trip out, or both. On one of these pleasant visits, I listened to the three amigos, Carol, Kay, and Tex talk about their designer fertilizer Excalibur, so I jumped aboard. Until this spring I always thought fertilizer was fertilizer. Never again will I think in those terms. I've been doing this a long time, so I have had blooming plants, but I have never had so many blooming at the same time

on so many branches. It could be my imagination, but the colors even seemed brighter. I have always blamed any mediocre production on my brutal dig up at the end of the season. But maybe this was not the only problem.

Do you remember the aforementioned street lights? Since I've been using Excalibur, I swear they are 3 feet taller. (You couldn't expect me to remain serious for this entire article could you?)



In the News—Fort Bend Sale



The PSA's Fort Bend sale in July was a big success! A tropical princess—Shahayla McCormick—celebrated with Vicki Jenkins and her father, Jeffrey McCormick.



Leticia

Winterizing Tips—Texas

by Paula Furtwangler, Texas

Last winter, I tried George Hadjigeorge's method for winter storage of my plumeria. I had zero casualties—a first for me!

George's advice is to wrap the bare rooted plants in heavy plastic prior to storing. In previous years, I stacked the bare rooted plants in cardboard boxes, and the roots were open to the air.

By enclosing them in heavy plastic with minimal soil attached to the rootball, the roots kept growing in the dormant season. In the Spring, I was rewarded with nice, new white roots ready to grow.

I have never seen such a difference in the **lack** of desiccation. The plastic allowed them some air, but not all the moisture escaped, therefore, I think the entire trunk was able to retain more moisture.

This method saves room, too. The only downside is you must repot in the Spring.



Winterizing Tips—Texas

by Karen Abrams, Texas



I live in North Texas, and we see winter in my area—ice or snow and temperatures in the teens, twenties, and thirties on a regular basis. I bare root my plants (removing all the soil) and store them in perlite. Each spring I am greeted by a bounty of fresh, white roots.

Years ago, I stored in soil in pots, and always there were losses. I cannot remember losing any plants in the years since bare rooting and storing in perlite.

The photo to the left shows the plants in a big, plastic tub. A variation which I now use is to store in large trash cans with wheels. The largest, bare rooted plants are placed on the bottom with perlite, and smaller plants are placed in layers above—all in perlite. I store the trash cans in a greenhouse, and the perlite is slightly moist all winter.

In the last two years, I've added worm castings as I layer with perlite. The worm castings really give a boost for blooms.

Winterizing Tips—California

by Jean Thielmann, Southern California

In my particular microclimate in Santa Barbara, California, most winters have a few days below 30° F. To protect my plumeria, I have created a greenhouse space of 40 feet in length and 10 feet in width that we put up in November. One side of this structure is the



south side of our home. Greenhouse plastic covers the wooden panels that are assembled with pin hinges. On top of the plastic I use 50% Aluminet. I found that this was necessary to keep from scorching my plumeria

Aluminet acts like a mirror, reflecting the sun's harsh radiation. Its superior reflectability, creates a high-quality shade with diffused, refracted light beneficial to plant health. In winter months, it retains valuable heat.

on hot days. The roof is well pitched to allow for water runoff.

I remove the leaves of the plumeria before placing them within the greenhouse, and spray

with a miticide—the only pest that is problematic for me.

Some years I have run lights and some years not. They do seem to leaf out earlier in the spring if I do run them. I've used both metal halide and fluorescent, and after seeing the cost during a whole winter of metal halide, decided fluorescent was the way to go!

I run two heaters and two fans, a set of each on each end. I set my thermostat for 40° F. Due to the heat capturing stucco on



the side of my house, it rarely falls to that level. I always have at least one fan running. This year I have added a two-inch styrofoam insulation panel below the pots in an attempt to keep those root zones even warmer. Time will tell if this was worth the effort. I lose

very few plants in the winter since I have grown them in this greenhouse.

I do spray the plants down now and then, but do not do any heavy watering during the coldest parts of our winter.

I stack the plants, and last year had quite the Tetris built up. When that big quake hits us (and at some point it will!), I will have quite the disaster out there!

Our master bedroom opens out onto the greenhouse, and it

has been delightful to walk out and smell a plumeria at Christmastime! There is always something still blooming.

This greenhouse can be put up in a few hours and when taken down, the panels store nicely along one side of our house.



This article is written with Arizona and other Southwest areas in mind, but much of the information applies to everyone.

If your plumerias seem to be getting yellow leaves, and you are starting to see leaves wither and fall off, don't fret ... your plumerias are going dormant.

This is a good thing because they will go to sleep for the winter and awaken in Spring with renewed strength, leaves, and blooms.

What we don't want to happen is to have our plumerias freeze! Here is some information to help prevent freezing and ultimately losing your precious plants.

Since plumerias are very sensitive to frost, they should be moved into a garage or storage shed when the temperature goes below 40° F. They can be stored in their pots or bare rooted. They do not need light while dormant.

If this is not a practical way to store your plumerias, you can keep them close to the house and keep them as warm as possible by lighting them and aiming the light at the trunk of the plant or stringing heat-producing Christmas lights on them. You may also want to cover your plumerias with a blanket, sheet, or frost cloth (something breathable—not plastic). The trapped air will stay warmer and protect the plant.



Remember to remove the blanket during the day if it gets over 40° F. You can leave the frost cloth on day and night. It is made for this purpose. Blankets and sheets do need to be removed during daylight hours.

If you have a small heater, that can be used as well, but do make sure it is electrically sound and not close to anything combustible. You can also use tube socks and foam pipe insulation to protect trunks and branches. Try to maintain the air temperature around your plumerias above 40° F. at night.

Don't be too upset if you lose a few plumerias over the winter if they are covered outside or stored outside. Varieties vary to cold tolerance. One variety may survive 32° F., while another may not.

You may also bring your plumerias inside. If your home is around 65–70° F., they may not go dormant. They may keep their leaves. Water them sparingly and watch for spider mites. Air circulation is needed to avoid

spider mites. An overhead fan works great. Turn it on for a couple of hours each day. Cuttings and seedlings should stay inside during the winter. Again, watch for too much sun and stagnant air to avoid spider mites.

As Winter approaches, stop feeding fertilizer with high nitrogen because you do not want your plumerias to start growing at this time. You can give them some potassium, as well as a dose (1 tablespoon per gallon) of Epsom Salts.

Another tip in keeping them warm is to mulch up around the trunks with a coarse mulch only. This will keep them warmer during colder night time temperatures. Don't use a fine mulch as it will hold moisture and might rot your trees as it is our rainy season and temperatures are still warm during the day.

Too much water is the killer of plumerias in winter. Once you see that your plumerias are going dormant by dropping leaves and there is no new growth, you may

stop watering. If you can't help yourself and feel the need to water, give your plants one-half cup water per month. That should be fine for your plumerias and your state of mind.

Since our winters in Arizona are not harsh, most plumerias can be kept outdoors under house eaves or against the house on a patio or porch with some lighting or cover. Southern and western exposures work well. Avoid the north side of a house as that area is the coldest. If temperatures stay below 32° F. at night for several days, you may have to take more drastic measures. Frosts in Arizona have occurred before Thanksgiving, but the most damaging frosts come in February—just when you think you're safe, so watch your thermometer.

During dormancy, your once lush plant will look like a barren stick. Not to worry. Once warm weather comes again, new leaves will start to sprout and inflos will appear. May your plumerias bring forth many blossoms next Spring!

In Memorium—Mary Peebles

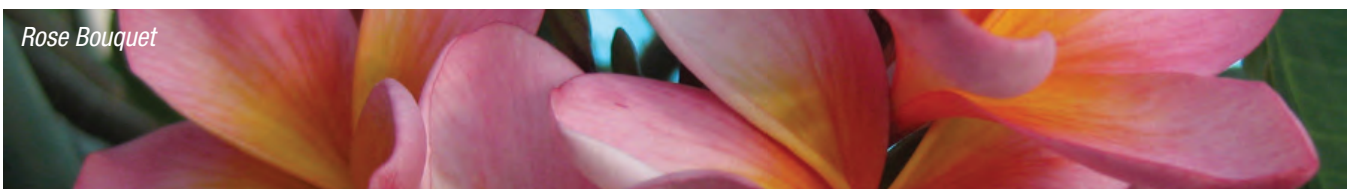
Mary Peebles, long-time member of the Southern California Plumeria Society in San Diego, passed away in August. Mary and her husband Sam supported SCPS by attending meetings, selling at the sales, and entering flowers in the Flower Show. Over a span of ten years, they won "Best in Show" three times for their flower entries. Their winning blooms were *Wildfire* in 2008, *Helene* in 2013, and *Helene* in 2015, for the first ever inflorescence winner. The PSA registered *Helene* in 2014.

With the support of SCPS, a plumeria grove is being planted at the San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas, California. At a generous price, Mary and Sam recently sold large plumeria trees from their yard to



SCPS for planting in the new grove. Plants included *Jeannie Moragne*, *Charlotte Ebert*, Thornton's *Lemon Drop*, Herzog's *Joy*, *California Sally*, and *Guillot's Sunset*.

Also, the Peebles gifted a huge, specimen *Samoan Fluff* tree; it was planted in a place of honor at SDBG. They have left a legacy of plumeria trees for all to enjoy through the years!





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Pretty Princess

Bud G.

Our new website is easier to navigate and to find information about plumeria care, cultivar registration, society news, events, and much more! Since the website is new, please check for updates and to see added features such as the flower identification database and a members only newsletter archive! Below is the current MEMBERS ONLY login and password information that will be needed to access the website's newsletter archive.

Log in: **psamember** Password: **Scottpratt93**

Twitter feed: **@plumeriasociety**

Joining the PSA ...

www.theplumeriasociety.org

Click on "Join the PSA" tab at the top of the home page.

To join by mail, select **PDF**.

To join online, select **Online Form (Paypal)**.

When joining by mail, send a check to:

The Plumeria Society of America, Inc.

P.O. Box 22791

Houston, TX 77227-2791, USA

Dues are \$25 per year

Purpose of The Plumeria Society of America

1. Promote interest in and increase knowledge of plumeria hybridization, propagation, and culture of plumerias.
2. Share this knowledge with hobbyists interested in plumerias.
3. Provide a register for recording, identifying, and classifying by name new types and varieties of plumerias.
4. Encourage and unite plumeria enthusiasts around the globe, throughout America, and across the seas.

When does your PSA membership expire?

Look on the newsletter envelope mailing label for your membership expiration date

PSA Officers/Committee Members—2016

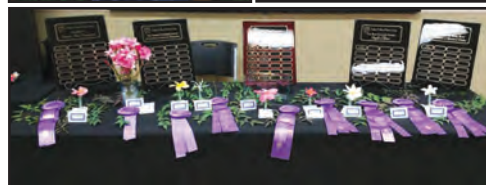
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Irene Jones <i>Newsletter</i>	ijplume@sbcglobal.net 760-436-6885

PSA Calendar—2016

- January 12meeting
- March 8meeting
- May 10meeting
- June 11Show & Sale I (Seabrook/Clear Lake)
- July 12meeting
- July 23 Show & Sale II (Fort Bend County Fairgrounds)
- October 11Fall Social (potluck) and meeting

- Meetings are held at Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston, Texas 77030.
- Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. You're welcome to come 30–45 minutes before the meeting for snacks and chat.
- We have a raffle, guest speakers, and more. Please join us to learn more about plumeria care and collecting.
- Non-members are always welcome!
- Bring your blooms. Bring your friends.
- Bring plants, cuttings, etc. for door prizes! These can be anything, not just plumerias.

Southern California Plumeria Society 2016 Hawaiian Festival



The many components of the Hawaiian festival—plant sale, lei-making, face painting, face painting, artisan sellers, dancers, musicians, food, and Flower Show (judging flowers, photographs, floral arrangements, leis, and educational posters).

