



Plumeria Potpourri

www.theplumeriasociety.org

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Come to the July 12th meeting!

Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

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

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



Tong Taweekhun

MEETING TOPIC
Current Plumeria
Trends—
Results from the
Recent Survey



Star Ruby



Orathai Pink



Tropical Aurora



Paramino



Penang Peach



Purple Moon



Siam Lavender



Dean Conklin

Photos taken during a
recent trip to Thailand
by
Rosabelle Laughridge



George Brown

The Plumeria Society of America, Inc.

July 2016

President's Corner

IPC 2016 in Naples has come and gone. This event was well attended by members from around the world. I met people from Australia, France, Japan, and Thailand, to name a few. There were so many attendees that a picture couldn't be taken of the entire group, but instead geographical areas were used. The largest groups were from Texas, California, and Florida with everywhere else being included in one picture. The lectures were informative and liked by everyone I talked to.

Naples Botanical Gardens is a beautiful venue and the variety of plants is truly impressive. Hetty Ford did a marvelous job coordinating the entire event; including getting transportation out to the plumeria area in a sudden drenching downpour! Helping Hetty were Mike Atkinson, Eulas Stafford, Carol Vannoorbeeck, Tex and Kay Norwood, and Karen Babb. However, we should not have invited the

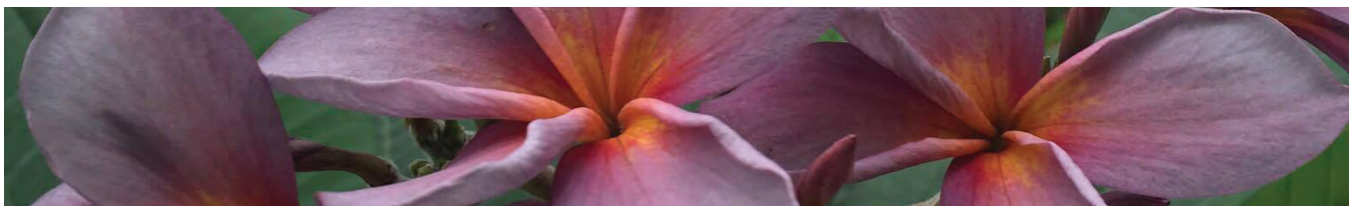
by Mark Wright, Texas (wright5447@sbcglobal.net)

chiggers, especially to the luau. I would like to thank all the planners, speakers, and attendees for making this such a great learning experience and a fun event.

Most attendees wondered why it took ten years to have another IPC. I think this one was made possible by the cooperation of so many people from so many places working so hard. A lot of talk was going around about having another IPC in five years.

Locally, our June plant sale at Seabrook was, as always, a success, and we're gearing up for the July sale at Fort Bend.

This year the October general meeting and Fall Social will be combined. We'll have a meeting and potluck dinner at the regular venue—Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion. We hope to have a very special speaker for this event, and members are asked to bring a food item—main dish, salad, or dessert.



The Plumeria Society of America
PLANT SHOW & SALE
JULY 23, 2016
Hours 9:30 am~ 3 pm.
Cash, checks or credit cards.
www.theplumeriasociety.org
Ft Bend County Fair Grounds
4310 Texas 36, Rosenberg, TX 77471

GROWERS
Please contact German Collazos with any questions at (713) 670-4064 or german.collazos@toshiba.com.
The growers' meeting will be held after the July 12th general meeting in order to allow time for people to arrive.
Important Dates
July 5—Commitment to sell at Fort Bend
July 12—Sellers' meeting (after general meeting)
July 13—Cultivar list submission for Fort Bend sale

Photos—PSA Seabrook/Clear Lake Sale



Vicki Jenkins, Roger Galle, German Collazos, David Holloway



Jim Hill and Paula Furtwangler



John Carroll



Patricia Miller-Weeks, Cindy Swinney, Terry Harvey, Karen Abrams

Emerson Willis
Barbara Randolph
Nancy Willis



Photos by Karen Abrams,
Sofia Campbell, and Cindy Deluna

Photos—PSA Seabrook/Clear Lake Sale



Jerome Bielamowicz, Cindy Deluna, Paula Furtwangler, George Hadjigeorge, Vicki Jenkins



George Hadjigeorge



Carolyn and Bryan Holland



Patricia Miller-Weeks and Eulas Stafford



Mike Janson
Virginia McClosky
Mark Terrill

Photos by Karen Abrams,
Sofia Campbell, and Cindy Deluna

Grafting by Ampol Orrungroj

by Irene Jones, Southern California

Ampol Orrungroj is a master grafter, having being the first person in North America to graft plumeria—about 20 years ago. He is a retired nurseryman who shares his method of grafting in this pictorial article.

Supplies

- grafting knife (Tina brand is the best)
- rubbing alcohol
- cotton balls
- Sharpie® pen
- ball head straight pins
- 1/2" wide, cheap electrical tape
- bamboo stake
- twist ties
- paper towels
- metal name tag
- 2 mil clear plastic bag (www.uline.com)

Night temperatures should be over 50 degrees F. for successful grafting.

To begin, clean your knife with a cotton ball soaked with rubbing alcohol. Reclean your knife after each cut.

As you cut, rock your knife to move it through the plant tissue—especially necessary with harder stems.

Make a horizontal cut on the host plant and remove the top.



Starting between the cambium and bark, begin to cut a V in the rootstock. Use a rocking/wiggling downward motion to complete the cut in one stroke. When one side is done, turn the plant, and repeat on the other side.





Ampol's unique V cut: straight downwards at the beginning, then curving slightly to the base of the cut.

Rotate the scion 180 degrees and repeat the shaping process on the other side of the scion.



Remove the cut piece from the rootstock.



The next step is to shape the scion into a V. Use slow, deliberate strokes, removing thin slices with each pass. A straight and smooth surface is the goal.



With the scion cut to a V, check to see if there is a match. 100% fit on both sides is needed—no gaps.

Use a Sharpie to place marks on the scion "flaps" if they extend above the exposed root stock. Trim.



Use a ball pin on each side to fasten the scion "flaps" to the rootstock and secure the scion.



Stagger the ball pins—this will help when wrapping with electrical tape.

Using electrical tape, wrap from the bottom up. When wrapping, create pressure and compression on the union.

Leave the ball pins exposed and wrap around them. Remove the pins, then go back and wrap the sections where the ball pins were.



Place a bamboo stake next to the plant for support and to hold the plastic bag at least 3" above the plant. It's not necessary to put the bamboo stake into the soil. Use twist ties to hold the stake in place.





Cover the plant with a plastic bag.

Place a dampened, folded paper towel near the bottom of the bag—not on the soil or plant.

Gather the plastic at the bottom of the plant and tie off with a twist tie.



Poke a few holes in the top of the bag. Leave the bag on for 15 days. This creates a little greenhouse for the plant.

Attach a tag marked with the name of the plumeria variety and the date of the graft.



Put the plant in a bright light and warm location. Do not put in full sun. If grafting an in-ground tree, place a paper bag over the graft to protect it from excessive heat.

Remove the electrical tape in 30 days.

The soil should be a bit moist, but not wet. Don't water the plant until there is leaf growth.

There is a 100% graft take with this method.



For more details: <http://tinyurl.com/hduuprl>

Registration of *Toba's Fire*

Members of Richard Toba's family attended the South Coast Plumeria Society meeting in Anaheim, California on June 12th to receive registration certificates for *Toba's Fire*. Bud Guillot (left side) and David Konishi (right side) presented the certificates.



Richard Toba was a native of Maui and had a one-acre plumeria grove with 100 trees. *Toba's Fire* is one of his seedlings.

During the months of April through July, Richard awoke most days between 3 and 4 a.m. to pick plumeria blossoms for several hours. The flowers were used to make leis which were donated to the Lahaina-Honolua Senior Citizens Club, a group that provides a couple of scholarships annually to students at Lahainaluna High School. He also gave the leis to the Na Kupuna Serenaders, a group of senior citizens who sing Hawaiian music and perform hula for free on days when the cruise ships arrive at Lahaina Harbor.

Registration of *Herzog's California Ruffle*



Carl and Joy Herzog with Eulas Stafford (R)



My Top Ten Plumerias

by Jean Thielmann, Southern California

I've been growing plumeria (actually the first five years were killing plumeria) since 1974. Many sacrifices were made to the plumeria gods before I started hunting down the experts. By some stroke of luck, the first person I seriously contacted for advice was Richard Eggenberger. The *Handbook of Plumeria Culture* was purchased at his suggestion, and a lifetime of learning began. My plants are grown in Goleta, California, which sits right on the coast, approximately 100 miles north of Los Angeles. It has proven to be too cold at my home to plant in the ground, so I move them all into a greenhouse for the winter. This has necessitated growing in pots, and keeping the plants short enough to fit into the greenhouse enclosure. This arrangement will continue until my back gives out, or I come to my senses! I have now collected several hundred different cultivars, and my favorites change with the opening of a new inflorescence. Having an inquisitive nature, I delight in tweaking my growing conditions, and stay busy changing up the potting medium and fertilizers after reading a promising article. I am truly thankful for my cement/soil mixer! Eternally hopeful, my favorite pastime is growing plumeria from seed. There are currently 400 seedlings in the lineup that have yet to bloom. I no longer kill as many plumeria, but when it happens, at least I have a reasonably good idea why!



Selection Criteria

- Fragrance—#1
- Disease resistance
- Moderately compact
- Resistant to injury from frost
- Head-turning display of blooms
- Strong branch structure

Number 1 *Aztec Gold* has to be my favorite plumeria. First to bloom and blooms all season. It doesn't mind being stuffed into my greenhouse every year—in fact, it rewards me by being the first to wake up in the spring, often blooming long before I take them out of the greenhouse in March. As if the beauty of the yellow velvet bloom were not enough, the scent is strong and captivating. Who doesn't like the scent of warm peaches? The inflorescence is long lasting, and in fact often blooms for the whole season. The blooms are not particularly hardy and don't last all that long in a display bowl, but the scent and color and abundance make up for that. *Aztec Gold* is easy to root, which allows me to keep it within my size restrictions without any fuss. When I find a good sale on *Aztec Gold*, I often purchase ten at a time so that I will have them handy to give to



folks for their first plumeria. Outside of complete abuse, *Aztec Gold* will perform well, and lead yet another fortunate soul down the plumeria path!

Number 2 *Celadine* is the workhorse of the Southern California plumeria world. Need a lei? Go find a *Celadine*! The scent is classic, the growth habit tends toward multiple tips with reasonable



branching. The tree makes a lovely canopy, and if given a warm spot in the garden, rewards me with masses of perfectly formed yellow and white blooms that are sturdy and long lasting. My first *Celadine* was planted in 1981, in frankly awful soil, and has never had a black tip or an off year for blooms. I have taken trunk loads of cuttings from this tree, and it still maintains a great shape. Rooting a *Celadine* requires sticking it near some soil and turning around fast three times! I've even been successful rooting this one in the winter. *Celadine*, along with *Aztec Gold*, are the plants I give to folks starting out with plumeria. Really, the only way I've found to kill one is to leave it out in a bad freeze.

Number 3 *Shimmering* is a new plumeria to join my top ten. It comes from Thailand, and although I've only had it through one bloom cycle, I'm captivated by it! The leaves on this plumeria are outstanding, and the bloom is even better. I can't vouch for the growth habit yet, but it split into three which is always a good sign! The plant appears to be very robust. The colors on this one are stunning. The flowers are in the three-inch range, and are very sturdy. The scent is strong, full of berries and spices. The inflo opened during late autumn, and if this is what it looks like in cooler weather and shorter days, I cannot wait to see it in the heat of August! I've

frankly had only medium success with getting plumeria from Thailand to perform well here without several seasons of acclimation. *Shimmering* hasn't skipped a beat. There are many aspects of *Shimmering* that remind me of *George Brown* (aka *Musk Rainbow*). The scent is reminiscent, as is the tone of the colors and the fluctuation of the colors as the weather changes. Both are lovely blooms, but for me, *Shimmering* has better structure and definitely better leaves, and appears to be hardier.



Number 4 *Leticia* made it into this group despite the fact it has a significant fault—the



flowers do not last more than a few days. The inflorescence keeps pushing blooms out, though, for

several weeks, so it wins a spot due to the production, size, beauty, and scent of the flowers. The growth habit is medium as a potted plant, and a big plus is it forms inflorescences on multiple tips. The flowers are large enough to make even Bud Guillot happy—five inch and larger blooms of pink, yellow, and orange. The scent is strong and sweet, and one that wafts to me as I do my walkabouts. *Leticia* is striking when in full bloom, and is one that even non-plumeria folk comment on for the beauty. *Leticia* blooms every year consistently.

Number 5 *Aurora Borealis* was gifted to me several years ago, and took a few years to get going in my cooler climate. But when it did get going, it really got going! Riveting color with sturdy blooms.



The scent is pleasant and sweet, but I would grow this one for color alone. Potted, this plant maintains a rather compact size, and now that it has roots under him, has put out inflorescences yearly. There is a purple cast to the flower that is really stunning. It changes colors depending on the time of year and the amount of heat, but always lovely and very unique. I was told it came as a seedling from Hawaii.

Number 6 *Lemon Drop* is here for many reasons—the first for me being I can't take a bad photo of it. *Lemon Drop* is by far my favorite photo subject. It keeps a good size in a pot, and blooms like crazy. I've found there are two groups of people when it comes to the scent of *Lemon Drop*. Folks either love it or dislike it. Unfortunately, I am of the latter group—otherwise, this one would be my #1. Don't tell Bud Guillot I said that as it's his favorite.



Lemon Drop's gorgeous leaves back up perfect inflorescences. It's truly a delight.

Number 7 *Milan* is a show stopper. Very nice form, and it has kept a good size and shape in a pot. The inflorescence on *Milan* is nearly perfect in form.



The color is saturated and intense, and the scent, although not strong to my senses, is pleasant.

Number 8 *Sundance* is an old favorite. Blooms consistently, and makes nice round inflorescences.



This plumeria stays within bounds in a pot. The scent is medium, pleasant. Four-inch blooms on *Sundance* make for a lovely display.

Number 9 White 93 has for me the best fragrance in the world of plumeria. Perfectly round, white inflorescences with a sweet, lush, captivating



scent. The scent to me is of honey and suntan lotion with some jasmine thrown in. The plant stays on the compact side when potted. The attractive leaves are gray/green, and the flowers are white—2 to 2.5 inches. Now it just needs to get a better name!!!!

(Carol, Tex, and Kay at Florida Colors Nursery: I'm just going to keep bugging you guys until you do it, so you might as well give in!)

Number 10 *Madame Pele* made the top ten, but it has a rather annoying habit of not blooming—sometimes for two or three years. With this being the case, to make my top ten, you can guess that when it does bloom it is a show stopper. And it is. This one makes me walk over to it whether I want to or not. Thoroughly captivating. Nice sweet scent. Colors change dramatically depending on the weather, but always interesting. This one needs to be in the ground in a warmer climate than mine so that it could get some great roots on it. I'd love to see if it maintains the non-blooming years, or if it would become more consistent. Medium grower.



Dr. Richard Criley
at Naples Botanical Garden
during the International Plumeria
Conference (IPC)

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Guadalupe Fernandez



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 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.

PSA Officers/Committee Members—2016

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IPC16 Group Photos

2016 INTERNATIONAL
plumeria CONFERENCE
MAY 10-11, NAPLES, FL, USA



Hawaii Attendees



California Attendees



Australia Attendees



Florida Attendees



Photos by Marc Lannuzel



Texas Attendees

IPC16 Speakers

Mike Atkinson
Stacy Atkinson
Karen Babb
Merv & Wendy Ballans
Dr. Richard Criley (K)

Diana Donnellan
Hetty Ford
Carl Herzog
Dr. Chad Husby
John Ingwersen (K)
Mike Janson
Scott Lawder

Tex Norwood
Kauahi Perez
Dennis Schmidt (K)
Eulas Stafford
Carol Vannoorbeeck
Emerson Willis (K)
Shirakawa Yutaka

Expert Q&A Panel #1

Paula Furtwangler
Bill Jurgens
Danny Kashou
Kerrie Siebert
Jean Thielmann

Expert Q&A Panel #2

Bob Arend
Dr. Richard Criley
Diana Donnellan
Dennis Schmidt
George Straw

(K) = keynote speaker