

# Plumeria Potpourri

Beryl's Swirl

July 2024



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# Presidents Corner June 2024

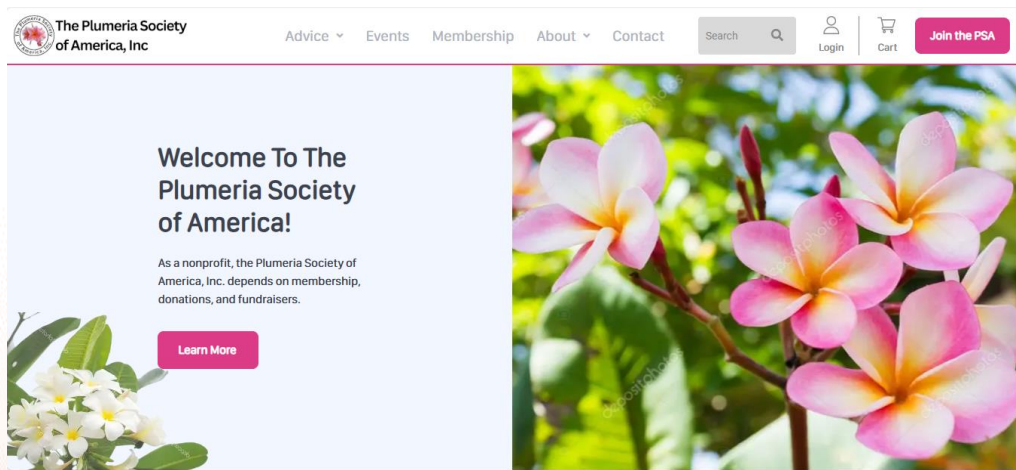
Presidents Corner:

BERYL and his Swirl,

WOWZER, that guy was an unwelcome house guest to all Plumeria lovers in South Texas! Beryl having caused extensive damage and widespread power outages in addition to 10's of thousands of down trees, forced us to make the right decision no matter how painful it was to our sellers and buyers. Canceling both our July sale and July meeting was painful, to put it mildly.

I am happy to report we have secured the last open Sunday in August for our meeting and of course we are on track for a bigger and better LUAU than we have ever had! So, mark your Calendar "Ask the Experts" meeting will be Aug 25<sup>th</sup> 2pm till 4pm (Doors open at 1:30) and our LUAU will be October 13<sup>th</sup> 2pm till 4pm! I am excited and looking forward to everyone at both events!

I am also delighted to report our website designer has submitted to Mike Atkinson and myself the first web versions of the new and greatly improved website and I am very excited on what I have seen so far! We hope to have it fully operational with better membership renewal and access to all our historical data by years end!!!



Please remember to add [events@theplumeriasociety.org](mailto:events@theplumeriasociety.org) to your email address book so you are receiving all our digital content!

Please stay safe and remember we are here for you all no matter what Mother Nature throws our way!

Thank you all again for your support of the PSA.

John T. Burford

PSA President 2024-2025

# Local Growers Hurricane Prep and post storm reports.

## Beryl Blows through Cypress - Northwest Houston Donna Christy

The strong easterly wind from Beryl tore through the plumeria grove upending pots and uprooting trees. Some of the worst damage was done to the 8 ft . Aztec Gold, with branches ripped off the tree by the strong wind of Beryl. Though I had removed lots of leaves from the tallest trees, those were the most damaged with the Aztec Gold losing 6 limbs. These broken branches have been recut and placed to root.



## The Aftermath of Beryl Kim Orsak

Coastal living brings its own set of challenges during a hurricane due to the storm surge and salt spray.

Storm surge was predicted to be 3-5 feet above mean sea level as Beryl hit land. It surged to 5.03 feet at our house.



Plunging plumeria trees in the flowerbeds allowed for the quick extraction of plants that would have been overtaken by the surge.



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These plants were stored under the house during the storm. What I did not anticipate was the effect the salt spray would have on the plants. After noticing the salt on the windows and cars, the process of rinsing the salt from the plants started immediately.

First a freshwater rinse and then using a hose end sprayer, all the plants received a foliar spray and a soil drench of Medina Soil Activator Plus. The Medina Soil Activator Plus helps to neutralize the salt. The process was repeated 2 days later. One week following the storm, the trees look great!



### **Paula Furtwangler in Katy**

Before the fury of Beryl's winds arrived, I laid my big plants in pots over to prevent breakage of limbs and thankfully I had no broken limbs.

A few of my inground plumerias were uprooted and laid over by the hurricane force winds but none lost tips. Finding a silver lining in the storm, I picked off my blooms and created six beautiful leis.



## **Gulf Coast Plumeria**

### **Mike Kennedy – Beryl**

We all know Hurricane Beryl came barreling through our area July 8th. It was reported to be a Cat 1 but areas south and west of Houston recorded winds of 100+ mph resulting in 2.5M people without power, some to this day.

As for my greenhouse, I consider myself very lucky. Yes, the majority of trees went down and lots of small tips lost. Surprisingly, relatively few large trees were severely damaged. My greenhouse itself suffered minor damage from three 6-8" limbs that toppled onto it but slid off the side.



Still some chainsaw work to do and debris to haul off but it could have been much, much worse.

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Side note: Beryl was a dress rehearsal. We are only in late July and the Atlantic season doesn't peak until mid-September. NOAA is predicting a much more active than normal season.



Use the current lull to tighten up preparations to protect lives, homes and plumeria.

Hi John, I did not take any pictures. All my 1-gallon plants were grouped together and suffered no damage at all. I normally cut leaves and spray with Bayer fungicide to prevent rust. This year I did not have time to do it. My big trees, full of leaves were devastated by the whirling wind. A lot of broken large branches. Some standard trees were cut in half. Next year, I am going to make sure I cut the leaves in June. The plants with few leaves take the wind a lot better.

George Hadjigeorge

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Beryl had mercy on the Willis plumerias, home, RV Building and the rest of the family. He was a bit perturbed at our auto garage ripping soffit and fascia and a few shingles about. We know from experience aluminum work can be difficult to find. But there is no water leaking through (yet). We had a few pecan branches break but everyone knows this does not take much.

Now for what really counts around here. No plumerias broken, no bloom heads snapped, a few tall ones laid over a bit and no problem straightening in the soft soil. Because I don't do my flea market any longer, I have done many pots they could hardly fall over in the wind. They seemed to hold each other upright.



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Here is the part that could have been much worse. We lacked 4 hours of being without power for 10 full days and nights. We became motor homers once again living and sleeping in air conditioning with wires running to the house to the fridge and freezer. Gotta keep that ice cream hard. For Nan, of course.

After a week or so some very good friends lugged diesel fuel for us. I helped quite a bit (mostly by staying out of their way).

Emerson

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**Gulf Coast Plumeria**



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 By Appointment Only  
 Dickinson, TX

## 2024 Summer Sales and meeting changes:

By now we are all aware we were only able to hold 1 sale this season, the activity was hot and heavy right out of the gate, however it cooled off faster than a blue norther coming down from Canada. Make no mistake we still had a great sale; we have grown our sales average by 6k over historical data. These increases help us provide the membership with improved meeting location and a much-needed website update. As well, as we are starting a scholarship program that will benefit local seniors looking to further their education.

Beryl is to blame for both the July sale and meeting cancelations, in all honesty I am thinking an August meeting will be a great opportunity for us to discuss current issues with an “Ask the Expert” panel.

I hope to see each and everyone of our members at our meetings.  
Thanks  
John



**The Plumeria Society of  
America INC.**

**Ask the Experts Meeting  
August 25<sup>th</sup> 2PM to  
4:00PM**

**Clear Lake Bay Area  
Community Center  
5002 E NASA Rd 1,  
Seabrook Tx, 77586**

<https://theplumeriasociety.org/>

[www.facebook.com/ThePlumeriaSociety  
OfAmerica](https://www.facebook.com/ThePlumeriaSocietyOfAmerica)

# Plumeria Society of South Texas

When John Burford contacted me asking for input for the next newsletter, I replied that I did not have much to report but I would see what I could come up with. Well, it didn't take long for something to come up, Hurricane Beryl was making its way across the Yucatan and would be coming out into the Gulf of Mexico as a tropical storm headed towards the upper Mexico, Texas coast.

As many of us that live on the Texas coast know, the projection for landfall will change many times before the storm comes inland and preparations need to be made early. For awhile it was heading our way so after talking to Dr. Michael Womack at the South Texas Botanical Gardens a decision was made that we should cut a lot of the leaves off to reduce the weight on the branches and protect them from breakage if we were to have heavy rain and high winds. Our collection is planted in the ground, so we are not able to lay them down or dig them up for storms that may come through.





In 2017 when Hurricane Harvey hit Rockport, we had major breakage, and we were hoping to avoid this happening again. With a quick email and text messages our members were able to come out and help with the cutting back the leaves. Many of the branches were so heavy and full of leaves, they really needed the trimming anyway.

By Sunday afternoon, the forecast was showing a more northern turn towards the upper Texas coast with the Beryl approaching hurricane strength. We were out of the danger zone but our friends and families in the Houston area were the target. We here in Corpus Christi are so sorry to hear and see the damages and loses many have suffered and hoping for a quick recovery for the city and everyone.

On another note, our Annual Plumeria Sale is Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at the Garden Senior Center. We have 12 sellers this year with an inventory of rooted plants, seedlings and seeds will be available. Plumerias will include many named varieties and NOIDS in a wide variety of colors and sizes. The sale is open from 10:00am – 1:00pm.

# Growing Friends Gardening Club

In June, we had another wonderful time with our Growing Friends Garden Club at Maas Nursery. We strolled through the beautiful 8-acre nursery together and admired the gorgeous plants, beautiful gardens and interesting hardscapes. It was fun sharing our different growing experiences regarding the many plant varieties. Then it was off to Tookies Seafood for lunch. The food was delicious, and the conversation was enlightening.



If you would like to join us, please Contact Kim Orsak or Donna Christy via email.

# Welcome to Maui Plumeria Gardens

Maui Plumeria Gardens  
OPEN BY APPOINTMENT. 2500  
Honoapiilani Highway  
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**Palms, Plumeria & More**

The fragrance of brightly colored Plumeria blooms evokes memories of tropical vacations and warm summer days in the garden. The colors of Plumeria (or Frangipani, as they are also known) range from vibrant rainbows to brilliant white, and each bloom emits a lovely fragrance. Renowned for their beauty, you can weave blooms into leis or gently float them in a bowl of water. Now you can grow your own exotic plumerias in a home garden or on your patio. We're proud to offer many amazing, unique hybrids grown from our own seeds in Thailand.  
*John and Christie Ingwersen, Jungle Jack's, Vista, CA*

2022 Season - Start with Seeds!



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# 2024-2024 PSA Officers and Directors

Please bear with us as we improve and update our website, we have decided to remove the passwords so access is easier, and we can provide more up to date content. Look for the unveiling in the Fall.

Thank you,

The PSA Board



## 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 On line 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 \$35 per year**

All Memberships renew in December of the previous year.

Have you renewed yours?

## 2024 PSA Calendar

Our next meeting is August 25th it will be in-person and a zoom meeting:

Our year end LUAU will be Oct 13<sup>th</sup> also at The Bay Area Community Center.

Bay Area Community Center, 5002 E NASA RD 1  
Seabrook TX 77586

- Doors open at 1:30 and the meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. We will have a raffle, guest speakers, and more.
- Non-members are always welcome!
- Join us to learn about plumeria care and collecting.
- Bring plants, cuttings, etc. for door prizes! These can be anything, not just plumerias.

## 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.

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713-205-4224

## Plumeria Society of America Committee Chairs for 2024

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**Activity:** Kimberly Orsak

Fundraising (Plant Sales): Renee Riley

Program (Meetings): Kimberly Orsak

Social: Donna Christy

**Membership Chair:** Joan Robertson

**Publication:**

Web Page: Mike Atkinson

Newsletter: Rebecca Cammack

**Registration:** Mark Wright

**Research:** John Burford

**Scholarship** – Jason Miller