# Plumeria Potpourri

Nov 2024



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## **Presidents Corner June 2024**

Presidents Corner:

Wozer, what a year we had!

1 sale and 1 meeting canceled due to Hurricane Beryl in July. Our move to hold our meetings on Sundays at BACC (Bay Area Community Center) has proven to be a great decision, our meeting average attendance increased from 35 to 75. Hearing the feedback from those attending is all positive and a long overdue move.

Our only sale was very successful, it filled our coffers for maintaining continued growth of The Plumeria Society of America INC. We are moving away from the virus research and starting a new scholarship program for the 2024-2025 school year. Treasurer Wendy Kane and long-time member Jason Miller are spearheading this project.

Our website redesign is progressing nicely and should debut around the first of the year. Please keep a lookout for email notifications when we go live! Our new calendar for 2025 is included in this issue and will always be included in this publication as well as Facebook, and email notifications.

Please remember to add <u>events@theplumeriasociety.org</u> to your email address book so you are receiving all our digital content!

Thank you all again for your support of the PSA.

John T. Burford

PSA President 2024-2025

## **Growing Friends of Gardening Club**









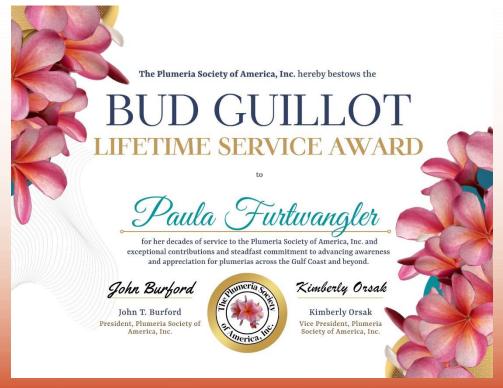


## Bud Guillot Lifetime Service Award

At our October 2024 PSA luau, the Board of Directors was pleased to award the Bud Guillot Lifetime Service Award to Paula Furtwangler for her decades of service to our society. Paula has held several offices within the board as well as her service to the community through speaking engagements, plumeria sales or seedling research, which led to her registering six plumerias.

When asked about her thoughts on receiving the award, these are Paula's remarks:

"Thank you, PSA, for giving me this tremendous award. It means so much to me and my family. When you join a plant society, you never know how it will change your life. Mine has certainly been enhanced through these many years. The PSA has some fabulous people, too.





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I am so grateful for the people who are my encouragers and mentors; Emerson Willis, Jim Little, Dr. Richard Criley and Mark Wright.

If it weren't for Emerson, I would never have known about the PSA. He encouraged me to come to the meetings and even came out to my home when he thought I might have a rare plumeria. Funny story, because it turned out to be a 'Celandine' given to me by my Mom in 1983, my first plumeria! Emerson's enthusiasm and Nancy's sweet encouragement intrigued me! I became a regular at the meetings soon afterwards.

Besides my dear Mom who passed away in 1986, my heavenly mentors were Eulas and Lake Stafford, Bud Guillot, Merrill O'Neal, Luc Vannoorbeeck, Rick Stone and Thea Whitenton.

Eulas Stafford encouraged me to run for office eventually, which were President, Vice President, and Director. I also served as Publicity Chair, and served on the Registration Committee.

Thanks, Paula"



## The PSA 2024 Luau

In now what has become a yearly tradition, the PSA Board hosted all Members to a season ending Luau.

Our menu consisted of:

Smoked Suckling Pig, Pulled Pork, Huli Huli Chicken, Maui Citrus Mahi, Mahi,

Hawaiian Fried Rice, Hawaiian Cole Slaw, Ohana Baked Beans.

Drums of the Pacific gave us an incredible Musical and Dancing show highlighted by an additional Male dancer accompanied the beautiful ladies.

A crowd favorite was having both Male and Female PSA Members join them on stage!!

I would not miss next year's!!!







If you're on Facebook, join us at

## https://www.facebook.com/groups/

The Plumeria Society of America.

Our Facebook page now has 4,970+ members

from all over the world—a great place to ask a

question or show off your blooms.

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## Plumeria Society of South Texas

Here we are with another year coming to an end. We've had a busy schedule this year, well I guess you can say, that is true for every year. We had our annual Plumeria sale the end of July and had a successful day, followed by our Picnic a couple of weeks later. Now it's time to put our plumerias into storage for the winter.

Our collection at the South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center thrived this year. The collection did very good overall. We did not have much loss to weather and wind and the heat did not seem as bad as last year. All the plumerias have really grown. I'm amazed every year when I see how much they have grown. Most of the collection were in 1 galloon pots after the 2021 freeze. We have our tall and lanky varieties and our wide body spreaders all growing into each other. I think the plumerias really like our soil.





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It will be a real challenge getting the plumerias into the greenhouse this year. We will be doing major cutting back on many of them. These cuttings do not go to waste, some are distributed among our the PSST members or sold at the Spring Big Bloom Sale at the South Texas Botanical Gardens and Nature Center.

We were hoping for a new larger greenhouse this year but that did not work out. We are working with the Botanical Gardens and hopeful with donations next year we will have a new, larger greenhouse for winter 2025. We are working on extending the current greenhouse as a temporary fix for this year, so we don't have to store any plumerias off-site again this winter. As they are right now in growth, I don't think even half of our collection would fit in our greenhouse.

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We had a good turnout for our workday on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to trim all the leaves from the plumerias. As big and full as the plumerias were, we were happy this task could be done in one morning. Now we have stick trees with beautiful inflows on many of the plumerias. Of the 82 that we have, 70 of them had blooms. The inside of the greenhouse will be very colorful and smell really nice for several weeks.

The plumerias will be put into the greenhouse on November 16<sup>th</sup>. It takes our members and volunteers on this day to get this task done. We will be pulling up all the T-posts that brace our plumerias, then dig them up. Then they are transported by tractor to the greenhouse.

We will end the year with our Christmas Party in December which is always fun with the White-Elephant gift exchange and door prizes given out.

### **Growing Friends of Gardening Club**

Our 2024 vision for the Growing Friends Garden Club has far exceeded our expectations. Our goal was to grow friendships while enjoying beautiful nurseries and unique eateries in the Houston area. We have covered a lot of real estate, both in nursery acreage and mileage to the wonderful locations.

We wanted to offer something for everyone, and we've done just that! So far, our adventures have taken us to Plants for All Seasons, Maas Nursery, Buchanan's Native Plants, Another Place in Time, Joshua's, Brookwood Community, Enchanted Gardens, and The Arbor Gate. Each meeting was full of noteworthy experiences, but a few really stood out.

The Heights stroll offered three unique nurseries and a fabulous lunch at the 1891 American Eatery. Following our visit to Enchanted Garden's, we made our way to the Ole Railroad Café in Rosenburg where the food and atmosphere was amazing. Arbor Gate was like walking through a botanical garden.

The Graze restaurant added an exclamation point to our Arbor Gate adventure. The most memorable and inspirational experience came while visiting the Brookwood Garden and Café. It is such a special place and will be on our list every year. Our group has grown exponentially, and we have made lifelong friendships.

We cannot wait to see what next year will bring.

## 2025 PSA Calendar

\*\*\*PSA Business Members only meeting
Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025. 6:30pm to 8pm\*\*\*
Cherie Flores Pavilion
1500 Herman Park Drive, Houston TX 77004

\*\*\*All other meetings and sales will be held at the\*\*\*

Bay Area Community Center

5002 E NASA Rd 1

Sea Brook TX 77586

General Membership open meetings are as follows for 2025:

March 23rd 2-4pm
May 18th 2-4pm
July 27th 2-4pm
October 12th 2-5pm (LUAU)

Our two sales are planned for. June 21st and July 19th, These are 9am till 1pm.



## Winter Care for Plumerias

Fall has arrived and winter's chill is in the air. Plumeria are deciduous plants that will naturally begin losing their leaves, and showing signs that they are going into dormancy. During this dormant period, the plant's growth slows down, and the plant conserves energy. This article will highlight important steps for proper winter care and protection that are essential to the health and future growth of your plumeria.

Deciding when to start winterizing plumeria depends on where you live and the climate. Plumeria can handle cold, but not frost or freeze. As a rule, you should begin preparing plants for winter when temperatures consistently drop below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. It is important to allow enough time for plants to acclimate properly into dormancy. So, plan ahead if you have a large collection.



Tips for successfully overwintering plumeria include:

- 1. Stop Fertilizing: The plants are slowing down and are not in active growth. Fertilizing will encourage new growth that will be tender and prone to cold damage.
- **2. Stop watering:** Plumeria plants do not need water unless they are dehydrated and look shriveled. You can mist them to prevent dehydration problems.
- **3. Prune or trim:** Dead or damaged branches should to be removed to prevent fungal disease.
- **4. Treat for pests:** Inspect your plants carefully. If you notice signs of pests, treat with Neem Oil or Insecticidal soap. Scale insects, Mealybugs and Spider Mites are your likely suspects.
- **5. Prevent fungal diseases:** Inspect your plants for signs of fungus like rust, powdery mildew or rust colored spots on leaves. Remove affected leaves and treat plant with a fungal spray.
- 6. Clip leaves (optional): The leaves will naturally yellow and fall in response to the lower light and shorter day length. Some choose to remove leaves by snipping the leaf petioles about an inch from the trunk. The remaining stubs will yellow and fall off naturally with a week or two. This method will encourage dormancy and prevent leaf trash in the storage area.

Plumerias can be stored inside your home, garage, greenhouse, or where temperatures remain above 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Depending on where you live, supplemental heating may be necessary. Use a thermometer to monitor the temperature, and be ready to adapt and adjust if necessary. Make sure plants are not sitting on cold tile or cement surfaces. A couple of layers of cardboard or a rug will help insulate the surface. The soil in the pot should not be wet or soggy. Proper air circulation is a must to minimize pests and disease. Do not overcrowd the plants, and if necessary, add a fan for additional air flow.

It is important to consider plant maturity when determining proper winter storage. The ideal storage method for a plumeria is to allow the plant to remain in its pot in soil; however, this is not always possible due to limited storage. All seedlings and plants under 3 years of age should be stored in pots. More mature plants can be bare rooted. To bare root a plant, remove the plant from the ground or container, and shake off the soil from its roots. You can place several bare-rooted plants in a single large container. Roots can be covered in newspaper or perlite for additional protection.

Monitor the stored plumerias throughout the winter. Keep an eye out for pests, dehydration and leaf node rot. Early detection will allow you to take preventative action.

Winter care will take a little extra time and effort, but will ensure the health and survival of your beautiful plumerias. You will be rewarded with gorgeous trees and fragrant blooms next Spring.

Happy Gardening!

Kim Orsak









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The PSA is proud to announce Jungle Jacks in addition to all our New Sponsors. Please mention these ads when you purchase from them all!





#### 2024-2025 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?

#### **Open to all General Meetings**

March 23rd 2-4pm May 18th 2-4pm July 27th 2-4pm October 12th 2-5pm (LUAU)

Our two sales are planned for.
June 21st and July 19th,
These are 9am till 1pm.
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.
- Share this knowledge with hobbyists interested in plumerias.
- 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.

**President:** John Burford <u>jtburf@swbell.net</u> 281-796-7185

Vice President: Kim Orsak orsak5@aol.com 281-844-3630

Secretary: Lori Powell <u>lori.powell1573@gmail.com</u> 713-517-0683

**Treasurer:** Wendy Kane <a href="wendy@wendykane.net">wendy@wendykane.net</a> 281-468-1839

**Director:** Donna Christy <u>deecee1111@jcorchid.com</u> 281-433-7129

**Director:** Mike Atkinson mike@uneeknet.com 619-250-0133

**Director:** Lisa Meier <u>debarber48@gmail.com</u> 713-205-4224

#### Plumeria Society of America Committee Chairs for 2024

Publicity: Lindsey Carlin
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

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Scholarship - Jason Miller