

Plumeria Potpourri

April 2025

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Down, or holding you back? P3**



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Presidents Corner April 2025

Presidents Corner:

Spring Showers bring May Flowers! Isn't that the old saying? Well, some of us have been tempting Mother Nature this spring with these false warm fronts!! I know I am one of them who has emptied their greenhouses; thank goodness the severe weather has been limited and not centered in the Houston area. We seem to be getting our share of liquid sunshine though. 2025 has kicked off nicely; our first meeting was held on March 23rd, it was very informative, and we had great number of guest and members alike in attendance. Mark Wright gave a very informative presentation on rooting, Thank You Mark.

Many attendees had the pleasure of securing a beautiful cutting from the Will Ed and Linda Matthews collection. With the pending freezes earlier in the season their son David assisted Ed and Linda in taking several dozen large multi branch cuttings. Linda graciously donated them to The PSA for our meeting raffles. Linda, you are in our thoughts everyday and we will always be here for you.

Please remember to add events@theplumeriasociety.org 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

2025 PSA Calendar

All other meetings and sales will be held at the

Bay Area Community Center

5002 E NASA Rd 1

Seabrook, TX. 77586

General Membership Open to all Meetings are as follows for 2025:

May 18th 2-4pm

**Composting for Plumeria by
Sven Bors-Koefoed**

July 27th 2-4pm

October 12th 2-5pm (LUAU)

Our two annual sales are set for:

June 21st and July 19th.

These are 9am till 1pm.

*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.

Rooting Your Own in 2025!

Rooting Cuttings

by Mark Wright

To get started, you'll need to obtain a cutting. Many of our first plumerias are gifted cuttings; this is how the obsession begins. You can also, take cuttings from a tree you own or purchase cuttings from a valued source. Finally, unfortunately, some of us may end up with cuttings due to damage caused by natural disasters. Mark recommends using a PVC pipe cutter for a sharp and clean cut, and he also uses a fine serrated finishing saw for certain cuts.



As always, make sure to clean your tools using Clorox and WD-40, and to eliminate any viruses, use a butane torch heated to 1500 degrees. The base of the cutting should be cut straight, while the cut on the tree should be at a 45-degree angle to prevent rainwater accumulation. After cutting from the host tree, treat that cut with cinnamon. Allow the cutting to stop leaking sap, then dip it in a mixture of water and sulfur.



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Rooting You On in 2025!



Once the cutting has stopped leaking, dip the end in sulfur again and wrap it in plastic wrap to help retain moisture. Stand the cutting upright to develop a callous, which should take about 5 to 7 days. A proper callous is crucial for producing quality roots.

Once the cutting has calloused, it's ready to root. Remove the plastic wrap and select your rooting method. Plumeria cuttings can be gang-rooted in perlite, and bag rooting allows for easy visibility of the roots. The traditional method of rooting in a pot with soil and perlite also works. Some people succeed by simply sticking the cuttings directly into the ground, although this method is not recommended for most varieties.



Mark also shared a method for rooting in water, but if you choose this method, it's essential to monitor the cutting closely. As soon as a nodule appears, you must remove the cutting from the water and root it using one of the other recommended methods, since water roots are not the same as soil roots.

Mark suggests a soil mixture consisting of equal parts potting soil, natural bark mulch, and perlite. Regardless of which rooting method you choose, ensure that your rooting, or newly rooted cuttings are well-staked to stabilize the roots; bamboo stakes work well for this. Water your new cutting and be patient while waiting for leaves to appear. If the stem looks a little dehydrated, you can spritz it with water using a spray bottle.

Mark has been a member of the Plumeria Society of America, Inc. (PSA) since 1996. In 2009, he served as Vice President, and from 2010 to 2014, he held two consecutive terms as President. He returned as President again from 2016 to 2018. In March 2017, Mark succeeded Eulas Stafford as the Registration Chairman of the PSA.

Growing Friends Gardening Club

Our Growing Friends Garden Club is back in action! In March, we had a wonderful time visiting Enchanted Gardens, and afterward, we enjoyed a delicious lunch at Sandy McGee's. It was great to catch up and share some laughs!



Plumeria Society of South Texas

March was a busy month for us. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we are currently under stage 3 water restrictions, which many of you on the upper Texas coast may have never experienced before. With these restrictions, we are only permitted to hand water plants that are in pots. To comply with this, we gathered 85 pots of various sizes. The week before the scheduled planting day, holes were dug, and the pots were placed in their appropriate spots. This required careful coordination to match the pots to the size of the plumeria. What would normally take us one morning to plant required two workdays to get the plumerias into the pots, supported with stakes and tie straps. It usually takes a follow-up workday to make any adjustments to the plumerias. We quickly find out, especially with our winds, if we have leaning plumerias our stakes need to be relocated to properly support the plants.



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Plumeria Society of South Texas

It has been a slow start for the leaves to come out on the plumerias, just one or two have a few leaves and we do have 3 plumerias with some blooms. It is approximately a month that most of the plumerias have been in the grove, but I'm sure things will pick up soon.

Another change for us this year was the cancellation of the South Texas Botanical Gardens Big Bloom Sale due to the water restrictions. At this event, the PSST would traditionally sell cuttings from our collection and rooted plumerias. Consequently, we had to look at an alternate plan. Fortunately, the Nueces Master Gardeners are hosting their annual plant sale on Saturday, April 26th, and we managed to secure a table at their event. So, if you are looking for some cuttings to start the year, come out to the sale.

Upcoming Events

- April 26th - Nueces Master Gardener Sale from 9:00am to 2:00pm, Garden Senior Center, 5325 Greely Dr., Corpus Christi, TX.
- May 28th - General Meeting from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, Garden Senior Center.
- July 19th – Our annual Plumeria Sale

REACH Plumeria Talk with

Mike Janson

On a quiet Saturday morning, down a two-lane road in Cypress, Texas, a Plumeria Talk was held at REACH Unlimited, hosted by Mike Janson. Attendees gathered at The Greenhouse at REACH, where plumerias were available for sale, eagerly awaiting the event to begin. In the newly established Plumeria House, both rooted plants and cuttings were on sale. Many visitors took advantage of the "Buy one, get the second for half off" promotion on the plumerias.



Mike Janson, a long-time member of the Plumeria Society of America, has years of experience growing and caring for plumerias. He became a volunteer at REACH several years ago while searching for milkweed. He discovered that they had milkweed and realized they could also use his surplus plumerias to raise funds for their various needs. In 2023, he donated 250 rooted plumerias; in 2024, he contributed 120 plants, and this year, he donated an additional 125 to the greenhouse to benefit REACH Unlimited programs. When he learned about the services provided by the members, he recognized that they could learn to care for plumerias and possibly grow seeds.



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REACH Plumeria Talk with

Mike Janson

The goal of Mike's Plumeria presentation was to educate novice growers on effective plumeria care. He used rooted plants and cuttings in his demonstration, discussing many of his favorite plumeria tools and referencing a book titled, *Plumerias for Lovers*. Mike addressed various topics, including cuttings, rooting plants, fertilizers, and soil additives. After the presentation, attendees returned to their shopping with enhanced knowledge about caring for their new plants.



REACH Unlimited is dedicated to helping individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities lead fulfilling lives. Their mission is to provide joy, purpose, and accomplishment in a safe and supportive environment. One of the most enjoyable and meaningful opportunities for members is working with plants in the greenhouse.

The Greenhouse at REACH will continue to offer plumerias for sale to the public, along with a diverse selection of herbs, vegetables, and ornamental plants. REACH members are actively involved in various activities such as sowing seeds, transplanting seedlings, weeding, repotting, creating arrangements, and attaching plant labels. They learn proper care techniques for these plants, including watering and planting, under the guidance of their instructor, Rossana Borja. Rossana shared that many of the herbs and vegetables grown are distributed to local Community Gardens sponsored by non-profits to benefit the people in the area. Members also create decorative pots and centerpieces for retail sales using succulents and ornamental plants.



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REACH Plumeria Talk with

Mike Janson



Could this become a new destination for plumeria enthusiasts?

New Releases From Kukiat...

All available at Brad's Buds and Blooms

Athena Tree: This plant is very, very compact, with short branches. The flowers are 4 inches, with thick petals and a good-sized inflorescence. They display beautiful shades of red, pink, orange, and gold. In hotter temperatures, the gold and orange colors become especially vibrant. The scent is a sweet floral fragrance. This is a seedling of Betty Jean.



Banana Split Tree: The tree has a medium growth habit. Average flower size is 6 inches, making it the largest flower in the garden. It features a large inflorescence and thick petals. The scent is sweet peach with a hint of banana.

Eowyn –Semi-Compact: The average flower size is nearly 4 inches. The shape resembles that of Autumn Blaze, but Eowyn features purple and red colors. Its texture is very good. The scent is a sweet floral aroma, similar to that of Purple Serendipity and Charlotte Ebert (Purple Serendipity is a seedling of Charlotte Ebert).



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New Releases From Kukiat...

All available at Brad's Buds and Blooms

Mojo Tree: The tree is relatively compact. It features flowers that are 3.5 inches in diameter, with a vibrant, solid electric red color. The inflorescence is large and showy, blooming relatively early, often with flowers appearing on nearly every branch simultaneously, making it a true showstopper. The scent is a sweet, pleasant perfume. This tree is a seedling of Super Moon, while Pink San Germain is a seedling of San Germain x Charlotte Ebert.



Mutabilis: Very compact seedling of Tropical Aurora with short branches. Flower size is 3-3.5 inches, featuring good petal texture similar to Penang Peach. It has a good-sized inflorescence, starting with a brown color that matures to purplish-pink and greenish-gray. The scent is sweet and floral.

Razzelberry Tree: This plant is a compact grower with flower sizes ranging from 3 to 3.5 inches and a pleasing texture. The blooms begin as a deep, saturated purple, giving them a sweet appearance, and they transition to a pinkish-purple before lightening in color as they mature. The scent is a delightful mix of sweet floral and peach aroma. This variety is a seedling of Tropical Aurora.



Continued on the next page

New Releases From Kukiat...

All available at Brad's Buds and Blooms

Rossa Brushstrokes Tree: The tree has a medium growth habit. Flowers measure 3 inches in size and resemble an artist's painting with random reddish brush strokes on each petal, offering a good texture. The scent is sweet and floral. This is a seedling of unknown origin.



Vermithor Tree: This tree has a medium growth habit. The flowers measure 3 inches in size, featuring good texture and a deep reddish-orange center with a unique, intense dark red (almost black) in warmer climates. It has a spicy fragrance.

Wizard Spell Tree: The tree has a medium growth habit. The flowers measure 3 to 3.5 inches in size, forming large inflorescences. The petals may twist or have an irregular shape. Reddish splashes appear randomly on the petals and seem to correlate closely with the irregularities in their shape. The scent is spicy. It is a seedling of "Salmon Pink."





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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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2024-2025 PSA Officers and Directors

Please note our new and improved website is up and running, please take the time to browse the site and provide feedback.

www.ThePlumeriaSociety.org

Thank you,

The PSA Board



Considering Joining the PSA?

[WWW. Theplumeriasociety.org](http://WWW.Theplumeriasociety.org)

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

To join by mail, select the PDF.

To join online, select Online Form

When joining by mail, send a check to: The Plumeria Society of America, Inc.

P.O. Box 22791

Houston TX 77227-2791, USA

All Memberships renew in December of the previous year.

Have you renewed yours?

Open to all General Meetings

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.
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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Plumeria Society of America Committee Chairs for 2024

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Activity: Kimberly Orsak

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