



# Plumeria

# Potpourri

THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

May 1989

### Notice of Meeting:

Tuesday, May 9, 1989 - 7:30 p.m.  
Hermann Park Garden Center  
1500 Hermann Drive, Houston

Program for the evening will be a presentation of Slides of Plumeria. Dorothy Falkenberg, Program Chairman, will show slides of Plumeria, some photographed in other parts of the world. This will include a few from the Plumeria Society's trip to Hawaii in 1984. The slide show presented at the society's flower show in past years will also be shown again for audience viewing.

In addition there will be a short review on "How to make your plumeria plants bloom."

Also, Pili and John Oliver hope to be on hand to answer questions on plumeria growth and care after the meeting. They may be moving to Hawaii shortly, therefore, we need to take advantage of their expertise now. They are both past presidents of the society.

### NEW OFFICERS ELECTED:

At the annual meeting of the society in March the following members were elected to office for the year 1989-1990

- President: Mrs. Lee Jacobs
- Vice Pres: Sven Bors-Koefoed
- Secretary: Mrs. Rae Buebe
- Treasurer: Jay Harris

In addition the following have been appointed to serve as standing committee chairmen:

- Linda Cessner - Membership
- Dorothy Falkenberg - Program
- Pili Oliver - Publicity

- Abe Schonier - Research
- John Oliver - Registration
- Shirley Hummel - Social

The duly elected officers and appointed committee chairmen comprise the society's board of directors for the ensuing year.

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The Plumeria Society of America mourns the passing of a valued member, Mrs. Mary Duff, in March. Mary and her husband Dr. Ken Duff, have been active members of the society since its formation in 1979. She has served on the board of directors as the society's first treasurer, later secretary, and in the office of the presidency in 1985. She and Ken served as co-chairmen for the Plumeria Show and Sale last year. She was most recently appointed as a member of the board of registration.

Mary's enthusiasm and interest in plumeria cultivation is well reflected in her garden and by the outstanding plumeria blossom arrangements she contributed to the Flower Shows over the past years. She will be sorely missed.

The society extends deepest sympathy to Dr. Ken and the members of his family.

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### The President's Message . . . . .

### Greetings:

*Most of the plumeria growers in the Houston area have by now placed their plumeria*

outdoors in the sun and have started a program of watering and feeding for new growth after the long winter's dormancy.

It has even been reported that signs of bloom buds started appearing on some of the member's plants as early as March. This could mean that we will have many blossoms available for the membership meeting in May -- (bring those blossoms to share with all present).

To associate members living in other parts of Texas, the U.S. and around the world, timing in bringing your plants out for the approaching summer depends upon the weather conditions where you live. Be sure that all danger of freeze and frost has passed before leaving your plants outdoors for the summer.

There is need to hear from each and every grower of plumeria in all parts of the world on the various cultivation practices -- how you are caring for your plants. This information will be documented in an effort to accomplish one of the society's goals -- to learn more about the cultivation of the plumeria.

For example, in colder regions -- when (which month) do you place your plants outside? And in all areas -- what colors do you have in your collection and the names of same? How much light and what kind of feeding program are your plants getting?

We would also like to have pictures of you and your plants in bloom for the society's photo album.

To those members living outside the Houston area and may be visiting Houston at the time of our meetings, we would love to have you join us. In fact, at any time should you happen to be by this way let us know that you are here. My telephone number is (713) 780-8326.

Happy Blooming Season!

*Lee Jacobs*  
President

PICNIC PLANNED FOR SOCIETY . . . . .

All Plumeria Society members are invited to a picnic and garden tour at Mercer Arboretum, 22306 Aldine Westfield Road in Houston, on Sunday, June 25, at 1:00 pm. The covered pavilion has been reserved for the picnic after which we will view the plumeria garden as well as the other gardens at Mercer. The pavilion is located to the left at the traffic light on Aldine Westfield Road, across from the Arboretum.

Those attending are asked to bring a salad (potato, rice, macaroni, cole slaw or tossed green) baked beans, your favorite dip with chips, assorted fruit or a dessert. The society will provide the Bar-B-Q.

Your RSVP is requested no later than Monday, June 19. Please call the social chairman, Shirley Hummel at 668-6802 or president Lee Jacobs at 780-8326.

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N O T I C E

The society now has an official post office box which should be used when corresponding in all matters pertaining to the society including membership, dues, news articles, registration and research. Please write the:

Plumeria Society of America  
P. O. Box 22791  
Houston, TX 77227-2791

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..... ON IDENTIFYING PLUMERIA CULTIVARS

Introducing -- 'Aztec Gold' a fairly recent cultivar discovery by Houston members. Believed to be native of Mexico, its blossoms are large -- up to 4" across -- and are bright yellow with a suggestion of white around the petal's edge. On the back of the blossom is a wide, delicate pink stripe, again at petal's edge, noticeable in its bud stage and after the floret is fully opened. Its fragrance is fruity and it has excellent lasting qualities. Some growers have found its growth pattern to be out of the ordinary in that its branches stem out in graceful curving patterns rather than straight up thus keeping its growth close to the ground. Gathering blossoms from this plant becomes a different feat as one stoops rather than using necessary tools to reachout. This is a must for every garden!

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NEWS OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

In reference to the mention of an article in the March issue too late to publish ...

PAUL SCHAUBENBERG, who recently joined the society, has written the membership chairman of his joy in discovering the plumeria . . . . . It all began in Brazil and on to Ecuador where he planted two plumeria plants in front of his house. His fascination expanded even more when visiting Jamaica, Costa Rica and other islands in the Caribbean. He made several trips to southeast Asia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines each time strengthening his bond to this exotic flower.

He never had the opportunity to cultivate the plumeria in Switzerland where he lived in the most recent years. However, since his move to his new home and tropical gardens in the Canary Islands besides having three plumeria trees he is also raising little plants from seed.

Readers will be interested in knowing he is also growing in his gardens - oranges, lemons, mangoes, avacadoes, coffee, papayas and more!

We look forward to hearing more of his work at his new home and gardens in MOGAN, Gran Canaria, Las Palmas, SPAIN

. . . . .

MR. L. J. RICHARDS of Christchurch, New Zealand writes of his concern when the leaves on his plant all turned yellow and started dropping. Soon after that a flower stalk did the same. With no other signs of plant rot and just letting time go by, it wasn't long before the plant seemed to recover on its own and has since put forth two new branches. Knowing that high ozone levels can contribute to this problem he wondered if that might have been the cause.

(Editor's note: Readers comments are invited)

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..... And we are saddened once again to learn of the death of IRIS BANNOCHIE who passed away suddenly of a stroke in her garden at Andromeda, Barbados, West Indies, last September.

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EXCITING PROGRAMS IN STORE FOR ONCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS! ! !

The program committee has announced plans for presentation of some interesting programs this year. Topics include:

- "Introduction to Named Plumeria Cultivars"
- "How to String a Lei"
- "Learning More About The 'Singapore'

Be sure to be on hand!

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WELCOME TO MEMBERSHIP . . . . .

- Peter J. Erbland, Somerville, Mass.
- Russell and Sandra Harvey, Dade City, FL
- Mr. and Mrs. William M. Hesson, Jr., Stevenson, MD
- Glenn and Sally Boom, Montrose, AL
- Charles Jay Dykema, San Diego, CA
- Sheila Blundell, Houston, TX

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SPECIAL NOTE

At the beginning of this newsletter the newly appointed committee chairmen are listed. All active society members should review this and commit to serving on one of the committees listed. Your support is urgently needed. It is the membership that makes the society what it is. Serving on a committee is a great way to gain more insight into the workings of the organization. It is not fair to leave the responsibility to the chairman alone. Be sure to contact the committee chairman of your choice at the next meeting and volunteer to serve.

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