



*Plumeria
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The Plumerian

VOL. VI, ISSUE 1

THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF SOUTH TEXAS

APRIL, 1998

Notice of Next Meeting:

Date and Time: Wednesday, April 22, 1998, 7:00 p.m.

Place: Garden Center, 5325 Greely Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas (near Cullen Middle School)

Program: "Waking Up Your Plumerias" presented by Leonard Howard and Election of Officers.

COMMENTS FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Well, it's finally that time of the year again to bring those strange spindly-looking stalks out of the garage and begin another year of Plumeria pampering. With plenty of winter moisture, it should be a great year of seeing many blooming inflorescence. I have included an article in this newsletter entitled, "Waking Up Your Plumerias – A Spring Ritual" to assist you during the present months.

A word about the election of officers – At our April meeting we will be electing new officers. Please bear in mind that the Society's strength lies within its members and the guidance of their officers. This Society is in great shape financially, but needs "each" member's assistance so the "few workers" don't get "burned out". So, if you have a desire "to take the helm" or can help in any other capacity, please contact me or any other officer and let us know where you can help.

Also, should you know someone whom you think might be able to share gardening tips with us, etc., or should you wish to learn more about any aspect of Plumeria growing, etc. please let us know. If you have any other ideas for programs, etc., also let us know. As a personal observation, every time I've taken on some part of responsibility within this Society, I have been rewarded handsomely by getting to know that Society member who had a special talent or discovering that someone knows something about some other special interest.

As many of you may know by now, Bob Owen, our Society founding President, has purchased property in Colorado and will be spending much of his golden years dancing amongst the wildflowers in the Rockies... Just such a time to reflect upon his accomplishments since our first meeting on September 22, 1993 (nearly 5 years ago). I have personally had the pleasure of getting to know and have worked alongside Bob. I have had the opportunity to learn from him about many of his Plumeria growing secrets which he graciously shared with all of us. Bob organized and guided this Society through the very difficult initial years. He created a sense of Plumeria excitement that could be observed at each meeting. He's truly

a Plumeria Society legend and I would like to "dedicate" this newsletter to him on the Society's behalf. Again, Bob, thanks so much for all your support. Have fun in the Rockies, don't eat the lilies, and don't run into any trees!

Aloha!

Jocko

1998 BOTANICAL GARDEN SCHEDULE

Every member should take his or her turn for at least one week caring for the Plumeria Collection at the Corpus Christi Botanical Gardens. Care means to: (1) Water only when moisture meter indicates but not more than once a week; (2) Fertilize with Super Bloom once a week, 1/2 tablespoon per gallon of water; (3) Remove any weeds; (4) Look for signs of fungus or other problems and report to Curator Jocko Taylor (887-0252) for proper treatment. Contact Paul Thornton for moisture meter and Super Bloom at the Botanical Gardens Office. Listed below is the schedule. Notice, there are openings. Please pick a date and call in to Fred Allon (993-2554). A hearty thanks to those that have volunteered. Keep up the good work.

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Week of</u>	<u>Member</u>
April 27	<u>Heather Kock</u>	August 3	_____
May 4	<u>John Balcar-Valerie</u>	August 10	_____
May 11	<u>Bob Owens</u>	August 17	<u>Rodney GRIFFIN</u>
May 18	<u>Barbara Winescup 981000d</u>	August 24	_____
May 25	<u>Peggy Kenney</u>	August 31	_____
June 1	<u>Rodney GRIFFIN</u>	Sept. 7	_____
June 8	<u>Barbara Winescup</u>	Sept. 14	_____
June 15	<u>Lamar Howard</u>	Sept. 21	_____
June 29	<u>William Ware Webster</u>	Sept. 28	_____
July 6	<u>Fred Allon</u>	October 5	_____
July 13	<u>Rodney GRIFFIN</u>	October 12	_____
July 20	<u>Rosa Muller</u>	October 19	_____
July 27	_____	October 26	_____

November 19 1998 - Work Day. Remove plants and store in greenhouse.

Ann + John Matyjas

August 1st

As a Reminder: Now is also the time to begin making those cuttings for the August Plant Sale. Last year, some 400-500 plants were sold and the sale is expected to be even bigger this year. It's an easier way to recoup some of your out-of-pocket costs or perhaps for that next year's greenhouse.

Please Pay 1998 Dues Now

PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF SOUTH TEXAS
QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Address: _____

Occupation: _____

How long have you been growing Plumerias? _____

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Have you propagated Plumerias by cuttings?	_____	_____
Have you propagated Plumerias by seeds?	_____	_____
Have you done any of the following?		
Grafting?	_____	_____
Airlayering?	_____	_____
Hybridizing?	_____	_____

Which of the Society Offices and Committees are you interested in serving (check one or more)?

OFFICERS

President	✓ _____
Vice President	✓ _____
Treasurer	✓ _____
Secretary	✓ _____

COMMITTEES

Membership	_____
Program	_____
Research	_____
Social	_____
Newsletter	✓ _____
By-laws	_____
Plant Sales	_____
Seminars	_____

Please comment on what you want out of the Plumeria Society: _____

Program suggestions: _____

PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF SOUTH TEXAS

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Plumeria Society is for those who enjoy the lovely Plumeria and who want to participate in learning more about the aspects of propagation, culture, classification, research, hybridizing.

Meetings are held four times a year on the fourth (4th) Wednesday of the months of March, May, July, and October at 7:00 p.m. at the Corpus Christi Garden Center, 5235 Greely Drive, or at the Botanical Gardens as noted in the Newsletter. Four Newsletters per year are included. Membership dues are \$10.00 per year per member.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION TO THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF SOUTH TEXAS

Name: _____ Telephone # _____

Address: _____

Send #10 dues to:

Membership Chairman
The Plumeria Society of South Texas
P. O. Box 2153
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Let this be your notice that the 1998 dues of \$10.00 are now due. Please pay Johnny Smolik at our April meeting or kindly mail your check to the:

Plumeria Society of South Texas
P. O. Box 2153
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

We are again this year attempting to keep the membership dues cost down to a minimum. Please realize the dues requested merely recoup the Society's cost to process the newsletter. As a suggestion for a birthday gift, give your friend or a loved one a membership to PSST. He'll really enjoy being part of the Society and perhaps even want to try his luck at Plumeria growing.

CORPUS CHRISTI BOTANICAL GARDEN PLUMERIA EXHIBIT UPDATE

By Jocko Taylor, Curator

Having scheduled the official workday for March 14 of this year, a few brave souls paddled their way to the Botanical Gardens one very wet and muddy Saturday morning. Luckily for us, Leonard Howard had already made his annual roundup of supplies from local vendors. A week or two before Leonard and Lucian Willoughby had potted up some 20+ cuttings that had braved the winter months and had already had them placed in front of the existing exhibit entry. After surveying the situation at hand with Ann Yeager, John Balcar, Bill Tilles, and Leonard, we decided to wait for drier conditions when we might be better off exerting energies placing plants in holes rather than cleaning up mud pies.

By the following Saturday morning, temperatures were mild and soil conditions were ripe. With the good help from Barbara Winship, Leonard Howard, Ernest Wood, Paul Thornton, and several County Community Service workers, we began pulling our pampered Plumerias out of the greenhouse. Steadily we worked for several hours and finally at about 3:00 o'clock that afternoon, the exhibit was ready to be "awakened" for the 1998 growing season. It appeared that we had very little pruning to do and by the end of the day, I had lost count of some 20+ potential bloom shoots getting ready to appear. I also observed about 15 pairs of seed pods that had not popped yet. (Man, those Plumerias really love living out there! You know - with the bees and all that!)

Again, we need every member's participation by assisting with the maintenance. Please make arrangements some Saturday morning for about 2 hours to come out to see your Society's exhibit and lend a hand watering, weeding, etc. You will certainly be surprised! A little tip: The warmer months produce the heaviest blooming times. Practice your photography skills by placing your friends in the foreground of a "lush" Plumeria floret. Then send a copy to your Northern friends. As a footnote: This will be the third year for the exhibit and it has become recognized as the finest and healthiest exhibit in the South. To my knowledge, no other society has a public collection and we are privileged to have so much support. Thanks again for making the exhibit the "real attraction" at the Botanical Gardens.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, April 18, 1998
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Spring Sale & Garden Festival Propagations of Gardens
Botanical Gardens

Wednesday, April 22, 1998
7:00 p.m.

P.S.S.T. Meeting - "Waking Up Your Plumerias" -
Leonard Howard
Garden Center, 5325 Greely Drive

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Thursday, April 23, 1998
6:30 p.m.

Wayne's Walk with Wayne Hanselka – Casual Tour
of the Botanical Gardens at Dusk

Saturday, May 9, 1998
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Cooking with Herbs in Carol Bush & Marlon Recipes
Cooking, & Luncheon, Kings Crossing Country Club
\$16, \$13.50 prepaid registration w/Botanical Gardens

Wednesday, May 27, 1998
7:00 p.m.

P.S.S.T. Meeting – Program to be announced
Garden Center, 5325 Greely Drive

Wednesday, July 22, 1998
7:00 p.m.

P.S.S.T. Meeting – Program to be announced
Garden Center, 5325 Greely Drive

Saturday, August 1, 1998
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

F.S.S.T. Annual Plant Sale
Padre Staples Mall, Corpus Christi, Texas

Wednesday, October 21, 1998
7:00 p.m.

P.S.S.T. Meeting – Program to be announced
Election of Officers, Botanical Gardens

Saturday, October 24, 1998
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fall Plant Sale
Botanical Gardens

Saturday, November 14, 1998
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Work Day @ the Botanical Gardens
(Winterizing Plumeria Collection)

Note: Please feel free to contact us ASAP should you know of any upcoming events. Thanks.

PHOTO CONTEST RECAP

Congratulations go out to Leonard Howard, Bob Owen, and Jocko Taylor for their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes for the 1st Annual Botanical Gardens Plumeria Photo Contest. Many thanks to the contestants for displaying some 25 plus dazzling photos exhibiting breath-taking compositions of Plumeria florets. The exhibit was displayed from November, 1997, thru February, 1998, on the walls of the Botanical Gardens conference room and will probably be even bigger this future winter. Thanks goes to the judges of the Corpus Christi Camera Club for their expert participation. During the year please photo your prized compositions so we can continue the enthusiasm during the dormant time.

The Plumeria Society of South Texas
P. O. Box 2153
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

