

## The Plumeria Society of South Texas (PSST)

P.O. Box 60691, Corpus Christi, TX 78466

Email: psstcorpus@gmail.com / www.facebook.com/psstcctx/

### February 2018

Meetings are held at the Garden Senior Center

5325 Greely, Corpus Christi, TX 78412

Social @ 6:30pm & Business Meeting @ 7:00pm

Anyone interested in Plumerias is welcome to attend

**President:** Nina Dawson

**Vice President:** Michelle Jeffers

**Secretary:** Pam Hilliard

**Treasurer:** Teri Beck

**Past President:** Randy Snyder

**Curators:** Ron Maxwell & Lalita Barlow

**Assistant Curators:** Pat Kiser & Helga Zaleski

**Newsletter Editor:** Nancy Phillips

### Letter from the PSST President

We are preparing to enter into one of our busiest times of the year. Re-planting the plumeria collection at the South Texas Botanical Garden and Nature Center. Please mark your calendar for March 3rd and March 10th! PSST volunteers will bring our Plumeria Collection out and place them into the ground. There will be a volunteer sign up sheet for each day provided at the upcoming meeting on February 28th.

I realize that we have a lot of activities coming up and given the damage to the collection from the freeze, there will be much needed help in getting these plants back in the ground. Also, we will purchase some nice replacement plumerias to add to the current collection.

I would like all members to take some time out of their busy schedule to help with at least one or two activities this year. This will ensure all members have participated in helping stay active for our Plumeria Society.

The next event will be April 7th from 9-5pm, The Big Bloom at the South Texas Botanical Garden and Nature Center. In preparing for the Big Bloom, we will be pruning and marking the cuttings for the sale.

Our curators, Ron Maxwell and Lalita Barlow, will be coordinating the planting and pruning days for 2018. I hope this year will be great and exciting for you and we all have fun while doing a little work to help make our collection beautiful again.

Thank you, Nina Dawson

### 2018 Calendar

**January 24 General Meeting:** 6:30pm

Garden Senior Center

**February 28 General Meeting:** 6:30pm

Speaker: xxxxx

Garden Senior Center

**March 28 General Meeting:** 6:30pm

Garden Senior Center

**April 7 Big Bloom Sale:**

9:00am - 5:00pm at STBGNC

**May 23 General Meeting:** 6:30pm

Garden Senior Center

**June 27 Plumeria Sellers Meeting:** 6:30pm

Garden Senior Center

**July 20 Plumeria Plant Sale Set-Up:**

2:00pm - 4:00pm

Garden Senior Center

**July 21 Plumeria Plant Sale:**

10:00am - 1:30pm

Bluebonnet Room; Garden Senior Center

**July 25 Picnic:** 6:00pm

Garden Senior Center

**September 26 General Meeting:** 6:30pm

Garden Senior Center

**October 24 General Meeting:** 6:30pm

Year End Business & Reports

Garden Senior Center

**December 12 Christmas Party:** 6:00pm

Garden Senior Center. Bring potluck dish & gift to exchange (optional)

***The 2018 PSST workdays have not all been determined thus far. Please stay tuned!***

## January 2018 Minutes

January meeting minutes are to be approved at the February meeting. Please read through them prior to the February 28 meeting.

President Nina Dawson called the meeting to order. Secretary Pam Hilliard asked that the minutes be approved as sent by email. Betty Patterson moved that they be approved as sent. Sherry Halbrook seconded the motion and it passed. In the treasurer's absence, Pam Hilliard gave the treasurer's report. Plumeria Society has a beginning balance of \$18,365.54, deposited \$1466.00, paid out \$993.20. The new balance is \$18838.34.

President Nina Dawson asked for a motion to elect Michelle Jeffers as Vice President, and elect Teri Beck as Treasurer and Pam Hilliard as Secretary. Ron Maxwell made the motion. John Balcar seconded it and the motion passed. President Nina Dawson reported that it was time to change Committee chairpersons and asked for volunteers.

Door Prize, Plant Exchange Chairperson  
Sherry Halbrook will be filled by Verba Hunter.

Calendar Chairperson will be Larry Streight with Sherry Halbrook's help.

Refreshments will be headed by Carolyn Sullivan.

Big Bloom Chairpersons will be John Balcar and Melissa Garcia.

The New Committee on the Collection will be Ron Maxwell and Lalita Barlow, Pat Kiser, Betty Patterson, Melissa Garcia, and Rebecca Moya.

July Plant Sale Chairpersons are Verba Hunter, and Martha Gonzales.

Christmas Party Chairpersons are Betty Patterson, Shirley Garcia, Kathleen Alvarado, and Pat Kiser.

## Minutes Continued

Verba moved to table the Budget, Ann Vaughn seconded the motion and it passed. Sherry Halbrook gave a report on the Calendars. We ordered 125 for \$1164.00. Our net was \$460.00.

Ron Maxwell informed the group about a new Xeroscape Seminar.

**DUES ARE DUE NEXT MONTH AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING.** Those who joined at the July, 2017 sale are exempt until next year.

The meeting was adjourned to an informative presentation by Ron Maxwell on new fertilizer information.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pam Hilliard

## PSST T-shirts & 2018 Calendars

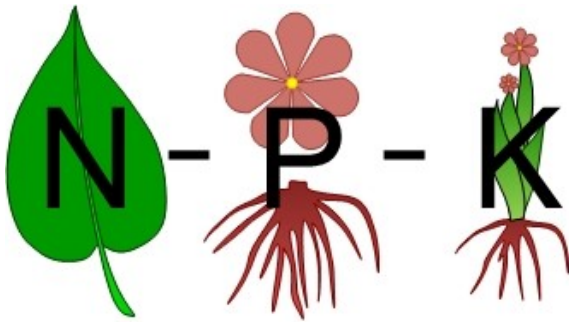
There are still PSST t-shirts available for sale. They are \$15. Multiple colors are available.

The beautifully designed 2018 calendars are available for purchase for \$12 each.



Based on interest at the January meeting, Ron Maxwell was nice took the time to do some research on fertilizers. Enjoy the read!

## Fertilizer Basics



Nitrogen

Phosphorous

Potassium

There are 16 necessary nutritional elements that plants need to grow well and be healthy. The fertility of your soil containing these elements must be maintained:

Carbon (C), Hydrogen (H), and Oxygen (O) is from the {air and water} available naturally. Nitrogen (N) is from {air and soil}. The rest of these elements are from the {soil and fertilizers} and include: Phosphorus (P), Potassium (L), Calcium (Ca), Magnesium (Mg), Sulfur (S), Boron (B), Chlorine (Cl), Copper (Cu), Iron (Fe), Manganese (Mn), Molybdenum (Mo), and Zinc (Zn).

These elements are broken down into three quantities: Major, Minor and Micronutrients or Trace Elements.

- Major elements include N, P, and K; you usually see these on fertilizer bags
- Secondary elements include Ca, Mg, and S; you sometimes see these on fertilizer bags
- Trace elements include B, Cl, Cu, Fe, Mn, Mo and Zn; normally not on fertilizer bag

These quantities represent the amount of elements necessary for plants to thrive. Plants need large quantities of Major and smaller quantities of Secondary and only Trace quantities of the micronutrients. These individual elements must be proportioned accordingly in quantities by groups they are in, because too much of one element will decrease the availability of the other ones. Apply according to the label directions on fertilizer bag.

Additionally, plants also contain Cobalt (Co), Iodine (I), Selenium (Se) and Sodium (Na) which are necessary for humans and animals that eat these plants, but not necessary for the plants to grow. The plants also contain Aluminum (Al) and Silicon (Si), which are not necessary for humans or animals or for plants to grow.

*Continued on Page 3*

## We Value and Encourage Member Input!



I encourage all members to submit tips, tricks and photos for us to include on our Facebook page as well as the newsletters. Not all content has to be related to plumerias. The more content we post online the more engagement we receive at no cost. Please email your photos in jpeg format and any other content to [psstcorpus@gmail.com](mailto:psstcorpus@gmail.com). Thank you to Ron Maxwell for providing the article above on fertilizer basics.

Also, please take a moment to visit the PSST Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/psstcctx/](http://www.facebook.com/psstcctx/). Like the page and share it with friends to help increase our visibility within the coastal bend.

Thank you,  
Nancy Phillips, Newsletter Editor



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## Fertilizer Basics Continued



### The Major Nutrients: (N-P-K)

- (N) is the main nutrient or high first number. It is for vigorous growth, green color and photosynthesis. An example of a plant that needs larger amounts of (N) is grass. They are almost all leaf and needs to be renewed frequently, because of frequent mowing, leafy vegetables also need high (N). Our atmosphere contains 78% unusable nitrogen, except when charged by lightening it becomes available as it comes down with the rain and improves soil with more nitrogen normally not available.
- (P) promotes root development to strengthen plants. It increases bloom, flowering and ripening of blooming plants, fruit and seeds. Example: tomatoes, roses, and of course plumerias...also good for bulbs and perennials that depend on strong roots for healthy growth. The middle number is usually higher in our area because of the higher concentration in the soil. It is needed more for plumerias because they need good levels of (P) for better blooms another example of higher levels of (P) are needed is for tomatoes for bigger fruit they produce and beans for the seeds that we eat.
- (K) another major nutrient improves plant health, helps them to withstand very hot or cold weather. Also helps with fruit formation, photosynthesis, and uptake of other nutrients. (P) works along with (N) and if you should add (N) to soil you should also add (K)...example of plants that need more (K) are palms because of a special need for it, and a little more (K) is needed in winter for colder areas. It is the third number on fertilizer bag for NPK.

### Secondary Nutrients:

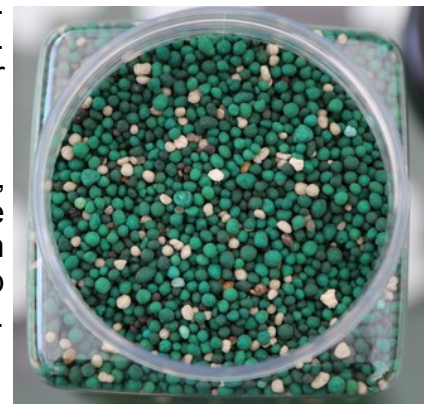
- (Ca) is for general vigor and promotes good growth for young roots and shoots. It also helps to build cell walls. (Ca) usually promotes a higher soil pH.
- (Mg) helps regulate uptake of other plant foods and aids in seed formation. It is contained in chlorophyll and is important in the dark green color of plants that shows up as yellowing between veins in leaves.
- (S) helps maintain dark green color and vigorous plant growth. It is also needed for manufacture of chlorophyll. (S) contributes to lower higher pH soil.

You should fertilize bi-monthly or monthly depending on the fertilizer. If you have slow release type fertilizer use according to the directions. Example, the 11-11-13 by Excalibur you can use every six months or every nine months...others vary.

For our plumerias, we should select a fertilizer with NPK like 20-20-20, 14-14-14, 7-7-7, 11-11-13 each with a complete trace element package Pp for our plants. Additionally, another fertilizer to consider is Epsom salt (not really a salt) is a magnesium sulfate. The (Mg) helps keep leaves green and the sulfate helps to lower our pH which is pretty use. Use once a month.

Any questions? You may contact Ron at [ronpamax@aol.com](mailto:ronpamax@aol.com) or call him at 361-937-4357.

Submitted by Ron Maxwell



Excalibur 11-11-13 Fertilizer

## Info for February Meeting

**\*Please remember to bring a pot luck item** if you plan to attend the February meeting. The social starts at 6:30pm followed by the business meeting at 7:00pm.

**\*Bring a plant for the plant exchange.**

Be sure your exchange items are brought in plastic bags to minimize cleanup.

## PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Please take a moment to review the 2018 Committees on the right side of this page. There were some changes indicated in the minutes, however, I believe some might be incorrect. Not everyone listed attended the January meeting so they were not able to speak up on their participation. For example, for the July Picnic, John Phillips has withdrawn his name so a replacement needs to be discussed.

Thank you,  
Nancy Phillips

## 2018 Committees

Committee	Chairperson
Telephone	Helga Zaleski
Big Bloom Sale	John Balcar & Melissa Garcia
Membership Booklets	Ann Vaughan & Pam Hilliard
Plumeria Signs	John Balcar
Refreshments	Carolyn Sullivan
New Member Flyer	Pat Kiser
July Plant Sale	Verba Hunter & Martha Gonzales
July Picnic	
Audit	Bernice Snyder
Christmas Party	Betty Patterson, Shirley Garcia, Kathleen Alvarado & Pat Kiser
Garden Council Rep	Martha Gonzales
Calendars	Larry Streight & Sherry Halbrook
Plant Exchange	Verba Hunter
Door Prizes	Verba Hunter
Newsletter	Nancy Phillips
Programs	Nina Dawson
Web Master	Nancy Phillips
Cuttings	Bernice Snyder
Membership Booklet	Ann Vaughan & Pam Hilliard
T-Shirts	Janice Larson
Curators	Ron Maxwell & Lalita Barlow
Maintenance Collection Committee	Pat Kiser, Betty Patterson, Melissa Garcia & Rebecca Moya

## 2018 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TO THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF SOUTH TEXAS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

----- Membership Fee is \$15 per person ----- Membership for 2 or more \$20 (same address)

----- \$15 subscription fee for paper copy of newsletter mailed to your home.

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