

Petal Power

Golby-Reasoner Chapter
American Hibiscus Society

May, 2007

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SHOW TIME!

The 43rd Annual Golby-Reasoner Hibiscus Show and Plant Sale is just days away and the excitement is growing steadily. Everyone should be looking forward to another outstanding show that is sure to impart the feeling of accomplishment that being a part of something worthwhile and special provides.

We here at Petal Power usually use the issue just before the show to treat all the things that members should know as the show draws near as well as listing things that should be remembered as members go out the door on their way to the set-up or the show itself. We will be doing some of that again this year, but will attempt to reduce it to a minimum.

NEW SHOW LOCATION - AGAIN ...

Yes we have a new place for our show – again! We are now “showing” at the Manatee County Fair Grounds, which is at the corner of 17th St. West and 13th Ave. West in Palmetto. Look for Gate #2 – which is on 17th Street West. Gate #2 leads to a walkway between the two buildings that we will be using, the Harper Kendrick Auditorium and the J.P. Harllee 4H Center.

All the folks at the Fair Grounds that we have worked with to date have been most cooperative and interested in helping us in any way they can. We look forward to having a long relationship with them.

SET-UP DAY - FRIDAY, MAY 25TH

All members (except those getting our “stuff” out of storage) are urged to arrive shortly before 10:00 a.m. It is possible that the set-up may take somewhat longer than in previous years due to the new location, but everyone should be finished before 1:00 p.m. – just in time for a late lunch somewhere on the way home.

Those involved with getting the Chapter show stuff out of storage and delivering it to the Fair Grounds will get an earlier start on the set-up process, since their objective is to have all the stuff to the Fair Grounds shortly before 10:00 a.m..

As always, there will be a need for scissors so please bring some – with your name on them for obvious

reasons. And, bring some paper grocery sacks – whatever reasonable amount your favorite grocery will let you have. We need around 200!

SHOW DAY - SUNDAY, MAY 27TH

Show Chairpersons Janet and Mark Love have once again done an amazing job in organizing and assigning tasks to everyone who will be working on the show. Therefore, virtually everyone will have an idea when they should be at the Fair Grounds. However if for any reason you don't, consider that 8:30(ish) would be a good time to get there. Here is a list of things to consider as you prepare to embark on your way to the show on show day:

- Bring hibiscus blooms! It is a show featuring hibiscus blooms after all! Bring whatever blooms you have (you are not supposed to bring blooms that aren't from plants you own) – garden variety, grafted or whatever. To “stock up” for the day of the show, store them in your refrigerator.....
- Wear your Chapter shirt if you have one. (Do not stay at home if you don't have a Chapter shirt.) The shirts let visitors to our show know who is part of the host Chapter – and whom to ask questions if they have some.
- If you are making a contribution to the refreshment table – don't forget whatever it is that you are to bring.
- Wear your Chapter name tag. No one will be passing them out – it will be up to you to find the name tag “mother load”. At this time, we plan on having that “load” of name tags on the counter of the kitchen being used to supply the refreshment table. (The non-members who help with the show will also have name tags - as sort of a way of giving them recognition.)
- Wear comfortable shoes! And perhaps keep a second pair in your car!

Chapter members may purchase hibiscus plants for \$12.00 (vs. the public price of \$15.00). Purchases may be made at any time during the day of the show when the plant sales area is completely set up and ready to handle sales. Please do not even enter the sales area until all the

plants are arranged on the tables and the bloom pictures are taped under the appropriate plants. Plants purchased by members can be placed in a holding area for pick-up at a later time; however the plants must be purchased before they are placed there.

AFTER SHOW CLEAN-UP

The help of all members will be needed for approximately an hour, beginning at 4:00 p.m. It is during that period of time that all our Chapter show “stuff” needs to be packed up, loaded into vehicles, and the newsprint, including all scotch tape, is removed from the tables. It is to be expected that everyone will be running a bit low on gas (energy, that is) by 4:00 in the afternoon, but it is just at that point that your continued involvement will be needed and will be greatly appreciated.

SHOW ASSIGNMENTS

As indicated earlier, Janet and Mark Love planned and organized the staffing necessary for the conduct of the show. It is our understanding that Mark does most, if not all, of the telephoning involved and during those, like 30,000 calls, arrived at the following line-up of tasks and assignments. We reproduce the following listing to recognize those involved and to provide a reminder to those who just might have forgotten what they are to do. We should note that the following concerns “assignments” for both the Set-up Day on Friday as well as the show on Sunday and that they are listed in no particular order. Of interest are the six or eight folks involved with “putting on” our show who are not members of our Chapter. We welcome them and look forward to seeing them – again this year!

Show Co-chairs: Mark & Janet Love

Publicity Co-chairs: David & Rae Flanders

Set-up chair: Gayler Boettcher

Announcer: Carl Kramer

Gold table: Rae Flanders

Greeters at Gate #2: Preston and Helen True

Commercial Bloom Prep Area: Petey Birchal

Kitchen: Dot Taaffe, Jean Nathan, Sue Haugh, Pat Kramer

Award staging & stage decoration: Pat Grant, Dave Flanders, Gayler Boettcher

Bloom tables & Christmas tree: Dee Pastorious, Yvonne Santiago

Runners: Maynard Pastorious, Jennifer Murdock, Jerry Lovett, Preston True, Rubin Santiago, Danielle Seipel, Sandy Brown

Tally clerks: Shirley Adams, Pat Kramer, Carl Kramer, David Kaplan, Sharon Breshnahan, Norm Marshall, Marlyn Marshall, Dave Seipel, Helen True, Frank Vejrostek

Good-will ambassadors: David Kaplan, Petey Birchal, Dee Pastorious, Mark Love

Registration: Betty Seipel, Dottie Erikson

Publication & education: Gene Haugh, Frank Vejrostek, Pat Grant

Photography: Gene Haugh

Publicity & membership: David & Rae Flanders, Norm & Marlyn Marshall

Plant sales: Donnie Waldroup, Jack Taaffe, Maynard Pastorious, Shirley Adams, Jerry Lovett, Bill Faulls

Property & transportation: (Friday AM) Donnie Waldroup, David Kaplan, Dean White, Bill Faulls (Sunday 4 PM) Donny Waldroup, David Kaplan

In addition to our Chapter members, numerous people of the A.H.S. travel to our show and perform many important tasks involved in the administrative and judging aspects of the show. We are certainly thankful for the role they play in the making our show a success. And then we certainly must recognize the many folks that travel to our area to enter blooms into our show – without them, there would be no show. We know that our members realize that and make an effort to welcome these visitors and to be good hosts to them.

June Meeting at Peridia CC...

Since we have such a swank place for our Chapter meetings now, it is only appropriate that we have our annual restaurant meeting at a county club. And so we will – on June 10th at Peridia Country Club beginning at noon. We will be partaking of their very nice Sunday buffet, so therefore, if you arrive somewhat after noon, all will not be lost since everyone will be starting at different times. If you did not “pay-up” at the May Chapter meeting, Dottie Erikson will be collecting \$10.00 from members (\$16.50 non-members). The Chapter is underwriting the cost in celebration of the (assumed) successful/wondrous show! Oh yes, the Officers and Board Members for the coming year will be installed.

The entrance to Peridia CC is at the first left after the stop light at 37th Street E. on Route 70 (53rd Ave. E.). Of course that assumes that one is coming from the Bradenton area. For the 10% that may be coming from the east, Peridia’s entrance is the second right after the Post Office at 39th Street E. and SR 70. The club house is on the left, about 5 or 6 ill-defined blocks from the entrance.

Bernadette Faulls

We had the sad task of writing about the passing of one of our treasured members last month and this month we must tell about the passing of Bill Faulls’ daughter, who while not a member, was most helpful during last year’s show. We can only imagine Bill’s pain at losing someone so young, Bernadette was only 39. Our thoughts and

prayers go out to him.

The Fourth Annual National Hibiscus Festival

They are having the “fourth annual” festival in Punta Gorda, June 15th & 16th. Considering what that area has experienced in the past four years – having the “fourth” of anything is quite an achievement. We all should applaud their efforts.

While there are festive things going on for two days, Friday (6/15) between 6:00 AM and 11:00PM appears to be a music and food event, while the actual Hibiscus Festival is on Saturday (6/16) between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Almost everything takes place on the waterfront at Gilchrist Park. However, the Harry Goulding Chapter will have an exhibit at the Punta Gorda Historical Park on Shreve Street.

Hibiscus Gardening in June

Don't believe the person who tells you that the rainy season begins in June. Many times it doesn't. Keep an eye on your plants' water needs. Virtually all plants, including hibiscus, require regular amounts of water during Florida's hot weather, whether supplied by Mother Nature or by a hose.

The copious amounts of water required will tend to wash away fertilizer no matter where the plants are planted - in pots or in the ground. Therefore, you may be faced with applying fertilizer more often than you think could possibly be required. Which brings us to the question of what fertilizer to use. (You will notice that the Chapter didn't buy the especially formulated hibiscus fertilizer to sell at the show this year.) Like several of our members, we will be looking on garden center shelves over the next several weeks to see what is available. We will be looking for something with a formula that has a low second number (phosphorus), like 7-2-7. In the mean time, while we all do some shopping, you can't go too wrong using a 6-6-6 formulation, which can be used on any plants after you find something more tailored to hibiscus. Let us know what you find!

Young grasshoppers have hatched and are active. Attempt to control the population by spraying for the young ones with something like *Sevin*. After they are full grown, about the only control available is a 10½. That is, after picking them off a plant you step on them with a 10½ shoe. (We have heard that other size shoes are equally effective.)

Chapter Meeting Minutes May 6., 2007

President Boettcher called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the April 1, 2007 minutes as published in *Petal Power*. Treasurer Adams' report showed an initial balance of \$3,875.72, income of \$442.50, expenses of \$79.70, and an ending balance of \$4,238.52.

President Boettcher noted that:

- A Memorial Service will be held on May 19th at St. Mary Magdalen Episcopal Church. Bring blooms and wear your chapter shirt.
- The Annual Restaurant Meeting on 6/10 at Peridia Country Club will start at 12:00 noon and will cost \$10.00 for members and \$16.50 for guests.
- The Board set the annual subscription cost of *Petal Power* at \$10.00 and voted to allow non-member helpers to buy plants at the \$12.00 discount price. Signs should be prepared stating that people joining the chapter at the show will get the discount price and a free copy of *Hibiscus Monthly Care*.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to elect unanimously the slate of officers and board members previously announced by Carl Kramer.

President Boettcher thanked Janet and Mark Love for their show planning efforts. The Loves then discussed show plans and assignments.

The meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m. to enjoy refreshments served by Rae Flanders and Janet Love.

Gene Haugh
Secretary

Coming Events

May 25, 27: Show Set-up, Annual Show

June 1, 10:00 a.m.: Board Meeting

June 10, noon: Annual Restaurant Meeting, Peridia CC

CLASSYFIDES -----
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