



HENDRY HERALD

JAMES E. HENDRY CHAPTER

of the **AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY**

WHEN YOU GARDEN, YOU GROW hendrychapterhibiscus.com JUNE 2022

THANK YOU! GRAZIE! DANKE! MERCI! TERIMA KASIH! OBRIGADO!

THE 69th ANNUAL SHOW IS IN THE RECORD BOOKS!

The plants sold out in under an hour. The new venue looked amazing. Food was all devoured. Fertilizer, clippers and handbooks were sold to people wanting to grow hibiscus. We had a big crowd thanks to all our publicity. All in all a very successful show! AND JEH MEMBERS WON BIG TIME!



SHOW WINNERS - James E. Hendry 69th annual show 4/30/2022

BEST OF SHOW	Single	Bon Temps	Valerie Costa	JEH
	Double	Moonlight Madness	Terry Martin	JEH
	Miniature	Electric Plum	Madeleine Dougherty	JEH
	Seedling	FRANK'S LAST HURRAH	Valerie Costa	JEH



	AMATEUR	Single	none	
	Double	Magic Moment		Brenda McClain, St. Pete FL
COLLECTOR	Single	Storm Front		Beth Meehan JEH
	Double	Untamed Heart		Terry Martin JEH
OPEN COLLECTOR	Single	Voila!		Madeleine Dougherty JEH
	Double	Peggy O		Madeleine Dougherty JEH
COMMERCIAL	Single	Ann Peltier		Frank & Karen Sullivan Green Acres, FL
	Double	Nectar Pink		Buena Vista, Orlando, FL
MINIATURE	Single	Celine		Buena Vista, Orlando, FL
	Double	Bayou Rose		Nancy Kopp JEH
SEEDLINGS	Regular			
	Single	Searching for Voila		Madeleine Dougherty JEH
	Double	see BOS		
	Miniature			
	Single			
	Double	Lavish Kingdom		Madeleine Dougherty JEH

Amateur Exhibitors 3 Total Entries 181; Seedlings 20 Gold Seals 109 %Gold 60%

SWEEPSTAKES WINNERS

Amateur	Brenda McClain	St. Pete	Cynthia
Collector	Nancy Kopp	Fort Myers	A Mother's Dream
Open Collector	Madeleine Dougherty	Naples	Voila!
Commercial	Buena Vista (Bill Bryan)	Orlando	Patrick

PAUL FELSBURG AWARD Cajun Princess Valerie Costa Bonita Springs

What a wonderful show we had. A few glitches were overcome with the whole group working together. Many people came to see the blooms that were displayed. The plants were totally gone by 2:38, even the smallest ones. Our very own members took almost every prize!

Especially wonderful was BEST OF SHOW SEEDLING, grown by **VALERIE COSTA** from a seed that **FRANK HEFFERNAN** hybridized. Before **FRANK & BONNIE** left our area for a more northern climate in Melbourne, **FRANK** gave out seeds and plants to many lucky James E. Hendry members. This beautiful bloom is from a seed given to **VALERIE!**

The Chapter has signed up to do a plant sale at Rotary Park in October. We are ordering 350 plants. Here will be your opportunity to stock up on plants. They will be \$20 each and will be discounted for members. Once again, help will be needed so consider signing up for 10/22. One day only. Set up at 7am and clean up at 3pm or earlier if plants are sold out.

Also we have secured our 70th Annual Show and Plant Sale at the First Assembly of God Church on April 29, 2023. The venue worked very well and we are fortunate to get it again for 2023.



HY'S WAY FOR JUNE

Lubber Grasshopper (*Romalea guttata*) As June approaches so does the adult Lubber Grasshopper. It is important to hibiscus growers as an adult can eat an entire hibiscus plant within several days. It is easy to recognize due to its large size and unique coloration.

The Lubber Grasshopper can reach 3 inches in size and is bright orange with red and black markings with yellow and red stripes. It is native to

Florida. It goes through several stages. In the nymph stage it is smaller than the adult, wingless and is black with yellow stripes. This coloration warns birds that it is poisonous. Since the adult's wings are short they do not fly but jump short distances. In both the adult and nymph stages, they eat plants and can be devastating to hibiscus. Look for them in your garden. They can easily be seen due to their bright distinctive red, yellow and black coloring. They should be destroyed. Poisons are of little use and the insect needs to be beheaded or crushed. The adults mate and eggs are deposited in the ground to arise as nymphs as the following April or May. Their presence can be detected by leaves eaten along their edges.

DR. HY LANS, author and Master Gardener



Q. Several newer members have asked if they can plant the beautiful exotic tropical hibiscus in the ground.

A. YES! You can plant hibiscus in the ground. They don't need to stay in the pot. Please check *HIBISCUS FOR YOUR GARDEN* by Hy Lans, page 1 for complete planting instructions. Hy's book is \$10 and is sold at chapter meetings and will be for sale at our meetings. Make sure you have a copy for all kinds of useful information.

SURVIVING SUMMER HEAT

Use water to Cool Your Plants A daily shower during the hot part of the day is one of the best ways to quickly cool your hibiscus plants. If you do a thorough showering job, spraying up under all the branches, leaves, stems and all around the trunks, you will also prevent most pests from ever getting started on your hibiscus. Hibiscus thrive in places like Hawaii where it rains every day, so providing a daily rain shower is optimum care. In extreme summer heat, though, this kind of shower is NOT the same as watering your plants! The water from a shower will evaporate very quickly, cooling the plants in the process. But it won't get down deep into the ground and water the roots! A daily shower will never take the place of watering your plants. This needs to be in addition to deep watering of your plants. Think of a shower for your plants like a shower for humans. It is necessary and healthy, but it does not replace all the water that we need to drink during hot summer days. A shower is no more a drink for a hibiscus than it is for humans.

taken from Hidden Valley Hibiscus



Annuals/Bedding Plants: Annuals that can take full sun during the increasingly hot summer months include celosia, portulaca, vinca, and some coleus.

Palms: Summer's warm, rainy months are the perfect time to plant palms. Make sure not to cover the trunk with soil.

Herbs: Plant heat-loving herbs, including basil, ginger, summer savory, cumin, Mexican tarragon, and rosemary.

Vegetables: Plant tropical vegetables, such as boniato, calabaza, and chayote this month.

What to Do

Pests: Monitor the landscape and garden weekly for harmful insects. Knowing which insects attack a plant can aid in identification and treatment.

Irrigation: Watch for drought stress and water as needed if rainfall has been spotty. Focus on new plantings and follow watering restrictions. When rains begin, shut down the irrigation system

Propagation: Produce more plants by air layering, grafting, division, or cuttings.

Pruning: Lightly prune summer-flowering shrubs, like **HIBISCUS**, oleander, and ixora, during the warmer months to increase blooming.

Fertilizer Bans: Numerous municipalities in south Florida prohibit the application of fertilizer to lawns and/or landscape plants during the summer rainy season (June–September).

Lightning safety: Be safe outdoors during storm season.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

THOMAS VEAL	JUNE 2
JACK LURIE	JUNE 14
KATHI LURIE	JUNE 23
JANE SURDI	JUNE 23
DIANNE ZINSZER	JUNE 25
CATHY BALAS	JUNE 25



TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. DUES ARE DUE BY JUNE 30. Please send \$40 dues to treasurer, BARB YEKEL, 5541 Hamlet Lane, Fort Myers, FL 33919

Preparing Your Landscape for Hurricane Season



We have just entered Hurricane Season in Florida, which lasts from June 1 to November 30. While August and September are generally the most active months, we need to be prepared for half of the year for the occurrence of hurricanes! Your family's safety is the most important consideration during hurricane season, and one

of the ways you can protect your family is to hurricane-proof your landscape. While there is no way you can fully prepare for major devastation in advance, there are strategies that you can implement starting now to ensure that your landscape and gardens are prepared for a major storm and provide a smoother recovery.

Tree maintenance is probably the most critical element in preparing your landscape for hurricane season. Hopefully, you have followed the "right tree right place" guidance by planting trees that are best suited for your landscape. This includes planting larger trees away from your home and other structures and away from power lines to reduce the risk of branches, or even uprooted trees, from falling on your home or power lines. There are many trees with greater wind-resistant properties that will withstand storms better than other varieties; these include sabal, manila and pygmy date palms, and gumbo limbo, live oak, and sea grapes. Your maintenance program should include regular pruning and maintenance of your trees to remove dying or damaged limbs. It is always advisable to consult a certified arborist for assistance with large branches that are located high in your trees. Wind resistance can also be greatly enhanced by planting trees in groups or masses; the trees will buffer one another as well as other areas of your landscape.

"Hurricane Trimming" of palms is one of the more controversial aspects of tree maintenance. Did you know that the Cape Coral Code of Ordinances states: "Palms shall only be pruned in such a manner that removal of fronds does not exceed a 9:00 to 3:00 pattern and no more than one-half of the fronds are removed at a single time"? The University of Florida does NOT recommend hurricane trimming for a number of reasons. First, excessive pruning reduces the canopy size and results in reduced photosynthetic capacity. Overpruning may result in greater frond production, but the resulting fronds are usually smaller in size. Observations of palms after the severe hurricane seasons of 2004 and 2005 showed that "hurricane-cut" palms were more likely to have their crowns snapped off than palms with fuller crowns. Horticulturists theorize that this occurred because the youngest fronds at the top of the palm had not hardened off to the same extent as the older fronds, and therefore lacked the support of the older leaf bases. In addition to making the palm crown more vulnerable to wind damage, overpruning will also cause narrowing of the trunk, called pencil-pointing, which could lead to trunk failure.

Other proactive steps that you can take in your landscape include keeping stormwater systems clean by keeping grass clippings and plant debris out of storm drains; ensuring that gutters are firmly attached and directing water away from your home; clearing gutters of leaves, branches and debris; and placing pavers in runoff areas to reduce soil erosion. If a storm is eminent, make sure you move container plants, hanging baskets, yard ornaments and any other unsecured items to a sheltered area. You should also turn off your irrigation systems because hurricanes invariably bring heavy rains, and you don't want to increase flooding in your landscape. If you have rain barrels leave the spigots open; if the barrels are connected to your gutters disconnect them to prevent overflowing. To prevent damage in high winds, you should consider moving barrels that aren't full of water to a secure area.

The arrival of hurricane season can cause concern for many Floridians, but one way to reduce your anxiety is to proactively prepare your landscape and gardens in advance of a potential storm. Being aware of prospective threats to your landscape and mitigating them before a storm approaches saves you valuable time and will provide you with one less concern before a storm strikes. The University of Florida has excellent resources for preparing your landscape for hurricanes, as well as tips for cleanup after a storm:

<https://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/care/weather/hurricane-landscaping.html>

Cathy Dunn, Lee County Master Gardener Volunteer
Garden Club of Cape Coral Member, James E. Hendry board member

NANCY KOPP GOES NATIONAL!

Recently a magazine "GULF & MAIN" interviewed NANCY & JACK BERNATZ and wrote the best article on Hibiscus. Here are the first few sentences-to read further, Google Gulf & Main.



"When Nancy Kopp moved to Fort Myers, she was looking for new friends. As a retired [United Airlines](#) flight attendant, she was a member of [Clipped Wings](#), the association for former airline employees. At the Southwest Florida chapter, she made a friend in Wanda Schmoyer, who was active in the [James E. Hendry Hibiscus Society](#) the local chapter of the [American Hibiscus Society](#). She introduced Kopp to the group.

"You can't imagine what it's like to go into a show and see hundreds of spectacular blooms in all colors and varieties," says Kopp. "I had to have one, then another, and another." Then she began showing her flowers at the meetings. "Once I began to get ribbons, I was really hooked!" Soon, she found herself going to conventions, and before she knew it, she had new friends in Florida, Louisiana, and Texas.

Her love affair with hibiscus has led to her becoming a board member of the American Hibiscus Society, as well as the local chapter. Today she has 65 hibiscus plants of multiple varieties, designs, and colors flourishing in her yard in Fort Myers." <https://www.gulfmainmagazine.com/2022/05/10/399923/fall-in-love-with-hibiscus-this-popular-bloom-brings-out-the-passion-in-gardeners>

SHOW TIME



Just a few shots of a few of the chapter workers, the head table, the directors and tally clerks and the plants for sale.

May 14, 2022

J. E. Hendry Chapter Meeting

Our last meeting before we reconvene in September was held at Lakes Park In Shelter House B2. Members, new members, and guests met for a delicious picnic of ham and all possible fresh vegetables, salads, fruit, and desserts. President Jack Bernatz brought coolers of ice and drinks.

Nancy Kopp did the swearing in of Officers and Board Members for 2022-2023.

Everyone took a Hibiscus/Florida Trivia Quiz. Prizes were given out to those with the most correct answers.

Our program was presented by Beth Meehan on "Everything You Need to Know About Pruning Hibiscus". She had several plants needing a variety of pruning help. She gave a detailed explanation and demonstration on opening up the center of hibiscus so that when finished your hibiscus will not only look great, but will also produce more buds and flowers. If you were not sure about pruning before you heard Beth give clear directions, afterward you had the confidence you needed to make your plants look wonderful.

The weather was perfect- sunny, breezy, perfect location and easy to find.

Respectfully submitted, **JOYCE YATES**, Secretary

MESSAGE from PRESIDENT JACK BERNATZ

Hello All,

What an exciting wrap up for our fiscal year 2021-2022!!

We had a Magnificent 69th Annual JEH Show and Plant Sale April 29th. Along with the sharing of magnificent blooms, 500 Exotic Hibiscus Plants were purchased, and we had the addition of 13 new members. JEH followed the Show & Plant Sale with our Annual Picnic at Lakes Park Pavilion B2.. The Picnic group contained many new members. I want to thank all for coming and making our last event of the year a very successful time together. We swore in our new Board, took a high level test, prepared by our retired professor Joyce Yates, that would have had the Horticulture Professors checking Google to answer. Then to complete the Picnic Event, Beth Meehan gave us a very practical, well-presented pruning testimonial with examples on hand for the demonstration. Thanks a whole bunch, to Joyce & Beth for enlightening us on our Namesake Hibiscus!!

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, Happy Summer, See You again in September, JACK

