



HENDRY HERALD

JAMES E. HENDRY CHAPTER
of the AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

WHEN YOU GARDEN, YOU GROW hendrychapterhibiscus.com DECEMBER 2019

A VERY HAPPY AND STRESS FREE HOLIDAY SEASON TO ALL

PARTY TIME

This year has just spun by. It is time for our ANNUAL & FUN
CHRISTMAS/HANUKKAH PARTY

Once again, we will be heading to DAVE'S FAMOUS BBQ for our festivities

The date of to gathering is DECEMBER 14th

If you haven't sent/given your \$20 per person check to CHARLOTTE HARFF, you must do so by December 7th. She needs to inform the restaurant how many people will be in our party. Her address is 1301 SE 20th Court, Cape Coral, 33990 and make your check to AHS.

The group will gather at 5:30 at Dave's, 12148 S Cleveland Avenue, Fort Myers (near the intersection of Cleveland and Crystal). The cost is \$20 per member and \$20 for any guest you want to bring. This \$20 covers all food and drink **except alcoholic beverages**. Please bring a wrapped gift costing under \$10. Can be funny or serious-your choice. We have a very nice group of people and all are welcome. All the attendees will receive a beautiful hibiscus plant. Bring any blooms you have to decorate our tree.

JOIN THE FUN!



Spread the laughter, share the cheer, let's be happy while we're here.

TO REGISTER BLOOMS

After hybridizing, getting seeds, planting and waiting for flowers, you finally get one! Now what? The information that was in our previous newsletter was incorrect. One of our star hybridizers, BETH MEEHAN tried to tap into the fake information and informed me that it didn't work. I see now in the October edition of the Petaloid from Marti Graves at the Lone Star Hibiscus Society, the correct info.

go to <http://internationalhibiscussociety.org>

To search for cultivars select the nomenclature tab, select cultivar search, you can enter data into any of the fields and search or you can select register/non-registered CV's and a new screen will appear. On this screen, you can select a letter of the alphabet, which will bring up a drop down menu and you can scroll down to select a name, which will bring up the picture and data on that bloom.

Before you can begin to register new varieties you will need to login to the registration form. To obtain your own personal username and password go to the registration tab. Complete the form. This may take 24 hours to become active.

Once you have your login info you can register a bloom by going to the nomenclature tab, select cultivar registration and register new cultivar. Simply enter your username and password to access the automated registration form. You may reenter the registration form as many times as you have new varieties. If you want to update a currently registered bloom you can do so by going to the registration tab - do not complete the form but click next to get a screen to edit a CV. MARTI GRAVES

HY'S WAY FOR DECEMBER

Break up any mulch that has become hard and caked. If needed, sprinkle dish detergent in a snakelike manner on the caked mulch which will allow water to enter the mulch. Add more mulch where depth is less than 3 inches thick. Use melaleuca mulch not cypress. You can buy it at your local garden center. It is termite resistant, brown color and the melaleuca tree is invasive and should be removed thus using it as mulch is a great idea. It also is better looking than cypress.

With cold weather in December and January, it is important to remember that wind damage to plants usually precedes a cold front and can be more damaging to plants than a drop in temperature because the dehydrating action of the dry wind results in typical leaf burn or marginal browning. The damaged leaves fall off and are replaced by new leaves. After a cold snap it is a good idea to give the plants foliage fertilizing with a liquid fertilizer. Prior to an onset of a cold snap, give your plants a good watering.

DECEMBER and JANUARY

December: Keep fertilizing your hibiscus with the usual amounts of fertilizer. **DO NOT PRUNE** although broken and dead branches can be removed at any time.

January: Cut fertilizer amount in half as you continue to fertilize. **DO NOT PRUNE**. If a cold freeze is expected, be sure to give plants lots of water prior to the freeze.

DR. HY LANS is a Master Gardener with a specialty in hibiscus. He has written a handbook for hibiscus that we sell for \$10.

IF YOU FOLLOW HY'S ADVICE, YOU CAN'T GO WRONG.

NEW MONTH, NEW BEGINNING, NEW MINDSET, NEW FOCUS, NEW START, NEW INTENTION, NEW RESULTS!

sent in by VALERIE COSTA

JAMES E. HENDRY CHAPTER of the AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY 11/10/19 Meeting was called to order at 2:00 with 39 members and guests present.

MARSHA CRAWFORD gave a short tribute to our member MARGIE LEE who passed away November 2, 2019. Her husband JACK LEE sent his thanks to the society for notes of condolence. There will be a Celebration of Life for Margie on January 4, 2020.

JACK BERNATZ, President led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked MARSHA for bringing refreshments and called for the secretary's report.

BARBARA OSTER, Secretary reported that the last meeting minutes were in the November Hendry Herald. No objections were raised.

CHARLOTTE HARFF, treasurer gave the beginning and ending balances of the checking account and told what checks had been written in answer to an inquiry from member, VALERIE COSTA. CHARLOTTE announced she would be taking payment for December 14th Holiday Party.

JACK reported that the "Big Pig" dinner would be held at Famous Dave's. There will be a 5:30 arrival time, bring a wrapped gift, cost to members and guests will be \$20 with alcoholic beverages on your own. All attendees will receive a hibiscus plant. Bring blooms to decorate Christmas tree.

JACK announced that the board will once again donate \$1500. to the garden project headed up by member WES ROWE. PAUL ZINSZER suggested that the group meet up with the teenaged recipients of the donation. WES said it would be impractical to bring students to us but would welcome visitors to the garden when the kids were working.

JACK mentioned that the 500 plants have been ordered for the January 18, 2020 plant sale at the Salvation Army Hall which will run from 1-3 or until plants are sold. He asked for volunteers to set up plants at 10 am. It was noted that working members will get first choice of plants and all members will get a \$5 per plant discount.

JACK reminded group that MICKI DOUGHERTY has obtained a 10% discount for members with their membership card at Riverland Nursery and Green Thumb Hydroponic Store.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30. 50/50 was won by MARGARET IMPERATORE. Many members won raffle plants (TRISH BREAUX was so excited-said it was the first thing she had ever won)

Submitted by barbara oster

Our first presenter was MARSHA CRAWFORD

Marsha uses Miracle Grow Moisture Control soil for planting in ground. She feels this soil is the best, most compatible for use in our area. She suggested never cutting roots when up-potting. She digs a hole bigger than the plant, adds soil then plant, making sure not to plant any deeper than the plant was in the original container. Next Marsha adds mulch, creating a moat around the plant and waters in. She suggested Miracle Grow-1 teaspoon to one gallon of water as a "weekly weakly" fertilizer. She also uses other products but emphasized to avoid stressing plant. She had many other hints.





Next up was NANCY KOPP

Nancy uses such a variety of products to achieve the beautiful blooms she has. Among them are HIBISGAIN, K & K, 8-2-12 PALM FERTILIZER, MIRACLE GRO, SUPER NOVA, SUPER THRIVE, mostly available locally and HIBISCUS BOOSTER from Hidden Valley Hibiscus.

She also has a whole stable of products for insect control.

Finally yet importantly was PAUL ZINSZER

Paul noted that the months of November and December are springtime in southwest Florida. He advocates pruning at any time of year contrary to what we have always heard. He talked about digging the \$20 hole for the \$10 plant. Paul is one of the representatives from Florida who test grows hibiscus seedling plants for the American Hibiscus Society to choose the Seedling of the Year (SOTY).



If you missed this meeting, you missed some valuable information. Our members are both knowledgeable and willing to share their hibiscus hints.

JEH EXHIBITORS - Show season will be beginning before you know it!

Now is the time to apply for a permanent exhibitor number if you plan to show blooms at next year's shows. Contact Roland Gaudet at rolmiclin@aol.com to request your permanent exhibitor number. **This number will be good for your lifetime at all hibiscus shows**

MARGIE LEE

It is with great sadness that we let you know our member MARGIE LEE has passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. The following is a note received from her husband JACK LEE.

Thank you for the kind card and notes from all. Please express our thank you to the members. "A Celebration of Margie's Life will be held at the Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ on Saturday, January 4, 2020 at 2:00 PM.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from JACK BERNATZ

What an informative general meeting, November 10th 2019. The participation of the entire group, New & Weathered members was wonderful. I could feel the energy and eagerness of our group to learn & share information of growing and propagating Hibiscus!

A Huge & special "Thank You" to members, Marsha Crawford, Nancy Kopp, & Paul Zinszer for sharing their very own personal & special information accumulated after many years of trial & error.



It has been brought to My attention by one of our Investigative Horticulturists, that would be Charlotte Harff, That some of our recently purchased Hibiscus were marked incorrectly. They were identified as "Mother Nature" and the bloom has been identified as "Space Oddity". This note is to inform you that if you have a "Mother Nature" in your collection of plants recently purchased or acquired it might be a "Space Oddity", a gorgeous bloom as well.

I want to Wish You All a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Look forward to our Christmas Party at Famous Daves, Hope to see You All there!

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to all! Jack

A smile is a sign of joy. A hug is a sign of love. A laugh is a sign of happiness. And a hobby like hibiscus? Well that's just a sign of good taste!