

## HIBISCUS INTERNATIONAL



# Page 8 DAMON VEACH

The Importance of Pot Size



# Page 9 WHITEFLY Exterminate!

Page 10 - 14
BEING ICRAR

lan Rabenda on the Responsibility and the Challenge





# Page 15 PETAL PERFECT Hafez Zahruddi

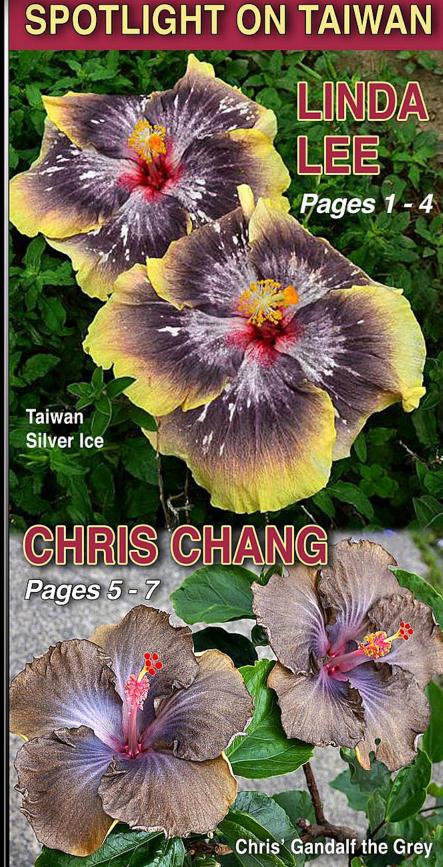
Hafez Zahruddin shares his art

Page 16 - 18

#### **HIBISCUS PARADISE**

Damon Veach visits Todd Alvis





#### **SPOTLIGHT ON TAIWAN!**

Linda Lee - 411 registered hybrids





Inda Lee lives in the south-east of Taiwan, in Kaohsiung, which is the 2nd largest city on the island. It is also said to be the sunniest area of Taiwan. Linda started growing tropical Hibiscus in 2009 and grows them in the ground.

Located over a degree to the south of the Tropic of Cancer, Kaohsiung enjoys a tropical

savanna climate. Although classified as tropical, the city does have a defined cooler season between December to March when daily temperatures average about 25°C (77°F), with the occasional cold front. Daily temperatures the rest of the year average about 30°C (86°F). There is a monsoon season, primarily from June to August, and average annual rainfall is about 74 inches.





**TAIWAN BRIDE OF SATAN** 

**TAIWAN DARK QUEEN** 

(Not registered)



(Yoda x Allure)



**TAIWAN PURPLE MAGICAL FAIRY** 



**TAIWAN DARK KING** (Dreamscape x Barry Schlueter)



**TAIWAN PURPLE SPOTTED BUTTERFLY** 

(Unknown x Unknown)





**TAIWAN GOLD DIGGER** (Not registered)





**TAIWAN ICE FANTASIES** (Not registered)



**TAIWAN UNICORN** (Not registered)



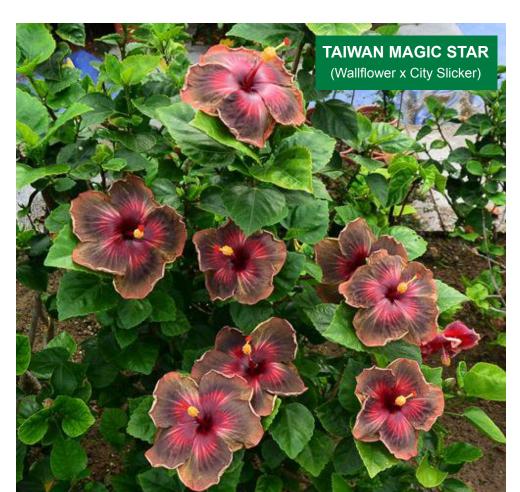
**TAIWAN SILVER ICE** (Not registered)



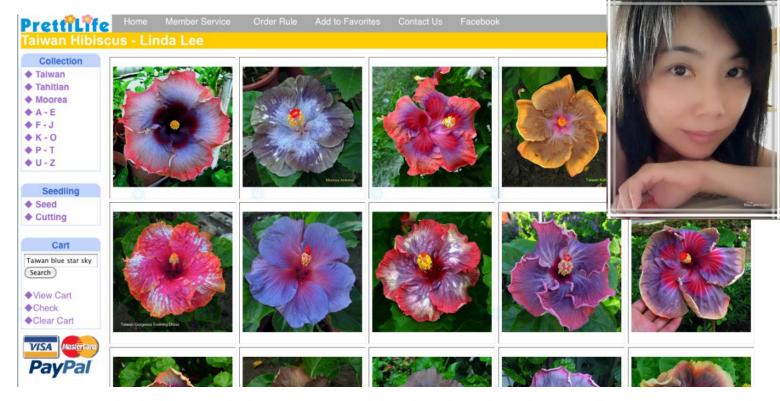
**TAIWAN SILVER FEATHER** (Not registered)



**TAIWAN KING ARTHUR** (Not registered)



**TAIWAN TREBLE CLEF** (Not registered)



Linda Lee has her own website at <a href="http://www.prettilife.com/hibiscus/">http://www.prettilife.com/hibiscus/</a> where she sells both seed and wood. I have bought seeds from Linda myself and was very pleased with the germination results. I am very much looking forward to my first Linda Lee blooms in 2016!



# More magic from Taiwan! Chris Chang



Chris Chang lives in Taichung, the 3rd largest city in Taiwan which is situated on the west-central coast of the island. The climate borders on being tropical monsoon with an average annual temperature of 23.3 °C (73.9 °F). The average annual rainfall is just above 67 inches and the average humidity is 80%. Occasional

Typhoons emerging from the South China Sea can pose a threat to the area.

Chris loves all things tropical - sun, sea, beaches in the Philippines and, of course, growing tropical Hibiscus. Most of his Hibiscus are not registered yet, but certainly deserve to be!





**CHRIS' HALLOWEEN** (Persian Rug x My Little Monster)





**CHRIS' SILVER RUNWAY** (Not registered)

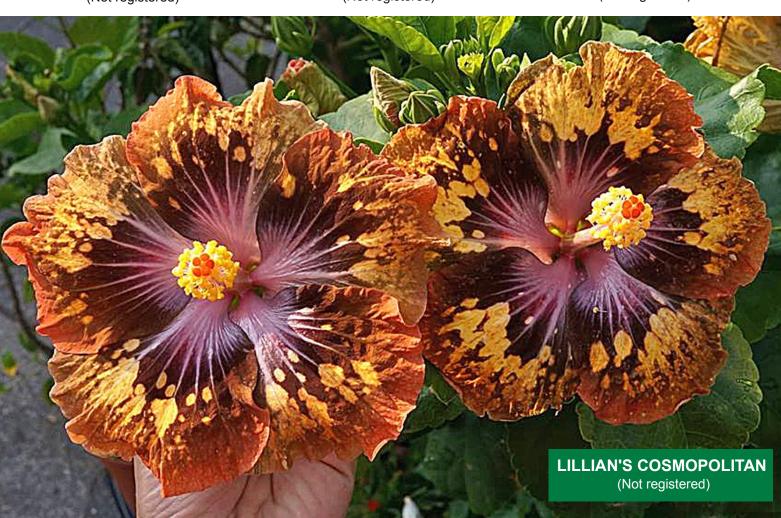


**CHRIS' ENDLESS PASSION** (Not registered)



**CHRIS' SOLAR ECLIPSE** (Not registered)







CHRIS' TIMELESS (Not registered)



CHRIS' A THOUSAND KISSES
(Not registered)



CHRIS' BIG ANGEL (Not registered)



CHRIS' LITTLE OSCAR (Not registered)



CHRIS' METALLIC GLASS (Not registered)



# Helpful tips

# THE IMPORTANCE OF POT SIZE!

**DAMON VEACH offers some good advice** 



Damon, with his Louisianna garden full of Hibiscus, is a well known personality in both the IHS and the American Hibiscus Society.

I do want to stress pot size again. This is very important to the longevity and health of your plants. For consistent production of hibiscus flowers, check those roots and if needed move up a size to allow the roots to expand. You do not want to transplant your hibiscus in too deep a container. If you do, your plant may remain healthy but will spend more energy producing roots than flowers and top growth. Therefore you may see fewer flowers until the roots have hit the bottom of the pot. You also run that chance of water retention and root rot problems.

If you should want to put more than one plant in a pot, this mixed planting needs proper balance too. You will need to use a larger pot, but look for one that is wider than the nursery pot but not much deeper.

A lot of what you do becomes experimental, but your goal is to keep your plants healthy and producing plenty of blooms.

#### POT SIZE CONVERSION

Some people talk in gallons, some in inches and yet others in centimetres. Here is a handy conversion guide for pot sizes (approximate).

10cm pot = 4" pot= pint (0.5 quart) = 0.5L

13-15cm pot = 5-6" pot = quart (0.25 gal) = 1L

18-20cm pot = 7-8" pot= 1 gal = 4L

22cm pot = 8.5" pot = 2 gal = 7.5L

25cm pot = 10" pot = 3 gal = 11L

30cm pot = 12" pot = 5 gal = 19L

36cm pot = 14" pot= 7 gal = 26L

41cm pot = 16" pot= 10 gal = 38L

46cm pot = 18" pot = 15 gal = 57L

61cm pot = 24" pot = 25 gal = 95L

76cm pot = 30" pot= 30 gal = 114L

When planting your cats make sure to space them 6 inches apart so they have room to grow.



#### WHITEFLY

#### Glasshouse whitefly - Trialeurodes vaporariorum



This sap-sucking insect pest breeds rapidly in warm greenhouse conditions. The adults and their scale-like nymphs live on the underside of the leaves where they feed on sap, weakening the plants.

Each female can lay more than 200 eggs which hatch into small, scale-like nymphs. The length of the life cycle varies according to the temperature. At 10°C (50°F) the life cycle takes several months, but can be completed in about three weeks at 21°C (70°F). The pest can remain active during the winter in an unheated greenhouse, provided suitable host plants are present. Glasshouse whitefly does not usually survive winter out of doors.

These pests are now resistant to many insecticides so you have to attack the problem in different ways.

Whitefly can't resist the colour yellow, so get some yellow sticky traps and place them near your plants.

You can also knock the population down a bit by getting someone to disturb the leaves while you suck the flying hordes into a vacuum cleaner.

There are a couple of natural parasites available for indoor control - a specialized ladybug and a tiny parasitic wasp, Encarsia formosa.





Products containing the following chemical ingredients all help with whitefly control - Pyrethrum, Natural Fatty Acids and Surfactant based products.

#### A HOME MADE CONTROL SPRAY

Add one tablespoon of liquid dishwashing soap (the regular kind - NOT an anti-microbial one) to a cup of vegetable oil (corn, sunflower etc) and shake well. THIS MUST BE DILUTED! Mix two tablespoons of this 'master solution' into a cup of water, shake well and spray on those infested undersides.

HIBISCUS INTERNATIONAL

#### **ICRA**

#### **International Cultivation Registration Authority**



The purpose of an ICRA (International Cultivar Registration Authority) is to maintain an order in the naming of hybrid cultivars. This means avoiding confusion by avoiding the duplication of names as well as avoiding a whole host of other potential problems with hybrid names such as, for example, excessively long names. The International Society for Horticultural Science appoints and monitors all ICRAs and the ICRA institution is now an international standard for keeping order in cultivar names.

Currently, the International Hibiscus Society is the nominated ICRA for Hibiscus, and Ian Rabenda is the formally appointed Registrar.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL HIBISCUS SOCIETY

#### How it all Began

It was Richard Johnson, who lives in remote Tahiti, who turned his dream of an international Hibiscus community into reality by laying the foundations of both the International Hibiscus Society (IHS) and its website.

Several IHS members later assisted with the IHS website but it was Joseph Dimino who spent untold hours of work developing the online database. Initially called "The Global Hibiscus Library", or TGHL, its many features included an online new cultivar registration system.

It was this groundwork that has enabled the IHS to cope with a database currently listing over 18,000 international Hibiscus cultivars.



Richard and Chantelle Johnson



Joseph Dimino, sadly missed

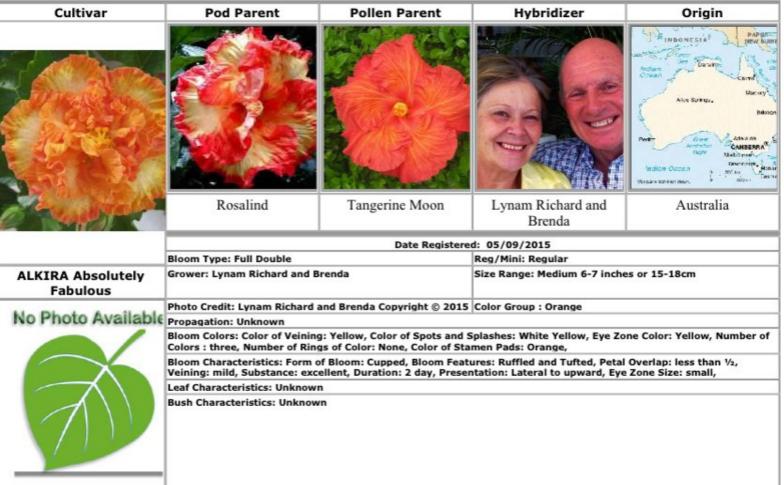
#### **ICRAR**

### My work as the Hibiscus Registar By Ian Rabenda

As far as my own personal history is concerned even members close to me probably don't realize that I had a passion for nomenclature issues even before I became involved with Hibiscus.

Prior to being bitten by the Hibiscus bug I was deeply involved in cactus and succulent plants. At the local cactus club I was the only member who was deep into the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature and the controversy around the classification of cactus plants. The subject was the primary focus of my cactus collection.





A recent entry from the online nomenclature database maintained by the International Hibiscus Society.

HIBISCUS INTERNATIONAL

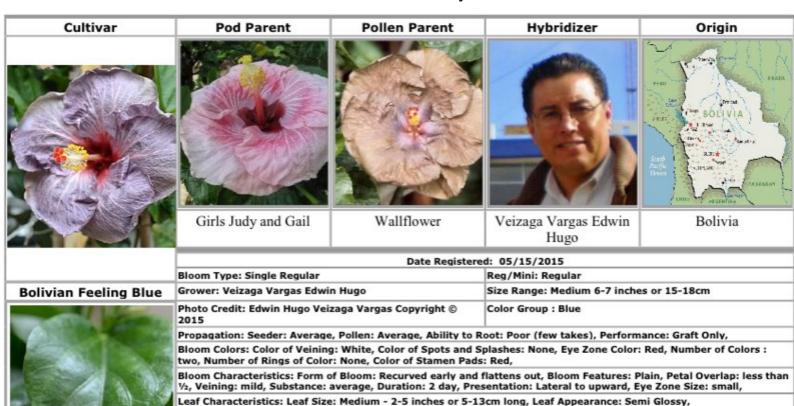
What hibiscus people are probably more the efforts of those who came before. In aware of is that I got involved with the Hibiscus nomenclature on the strength of my experience programming websites, not because of my knowledge about nomenclature, and because Joseph Dimino became too ill to continue as webmaster.

#### The IHS as ICRA -A Responsibility and a Challenge

The IHS was not the first Hibiscus society to attempt the maintenance of a Hibiscus nomenclature. The American Hibiscus Society made the nomenclature one of its prime purposes since that society's creation around 1956. Later, when the ICRA framework became established as the international standard for managing the nomenclatures of cultivated hybrid plants, the Australian Hibiscus Society became the first Hibiscus ICRA in 1980. The IHS did not assume the ICRA designation until relatively recently in 2013. In each case new work was built on each case also the rapid growth in the size of the database has made its management increasingly difficult and challenging.

Holding the ICRA consumes a lot of resources because it is such a lot of work. The advent of the internet doubled the complexity of the undertaking by adding the complexity of internet technology to making the data conveniently available online.

Going into the future a good nomenclature will depend heavily on the availability of dedicated hard working volunteers, on the voluntary cooperation of all Hibiscus hybridizers in registering their hybrids, and on the financing of expensive programming. The website IHS currently short in all of these departments and any assistance or participation from interested parties would be welcome. The challenge is great but the objective is worthy.



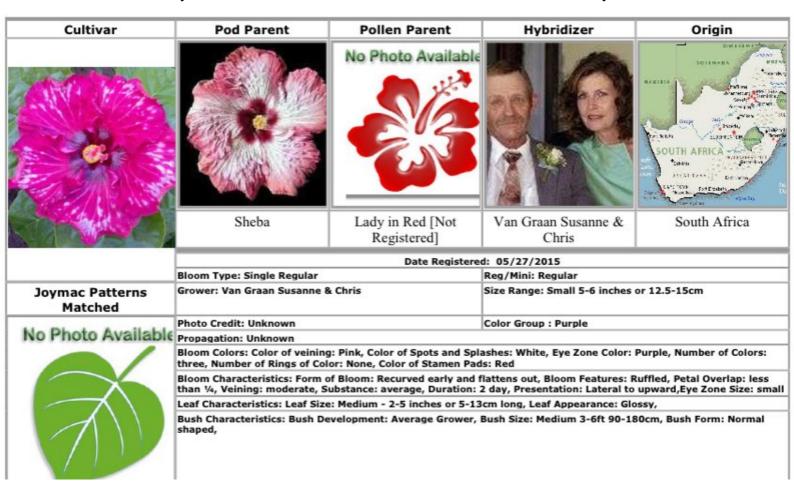
The IHS Hibiscus database can be searched alphabetically at: http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/SEArchive/A/cvindex1.php

high, Bush Form: Normal shaped,

Bush Characteristics: Bush Development: Average Grower, Bush Size: Medium 3-6ft 90-180cm, Bush Width: as wide as

#### **Current main ICRA duties**

- 1) Processing/analyzing names of newly submitted cultivars for registration on a regular basis. Requires a thorough understanding of complex ICRA rules. Done by: Ian Rabenda, ICRAR.
- 2) Transferring data of newly submitted cultivars for registration from the entry form to the online database. This is currently being done by Kes Winwood and takes a few hours every day depending on how many are submitted. No matter how automated we try to make the process it is unavoidably necessary to have some clerical work done scanning recently submitted applications for registration in order to correct any errors. This is largely now being done by Kes and myself.
- 3) Compiling a list of nonregistered cultivars in circulation. This was essentially being done by Carlos Fernandez, Tanya Capito, and myself. Tanya was scanning through thousands of pages of old journals and other documents looking for names not yet included in the database. There is a huge volume of work that still needs to be done in this department.
- 4) Finding and correcting errors in existing data. This was being done largely by Carlos Fernandez. The archives show that Carlos probably found thousands of errors in the old data that was inherited. Carlos was mostly finding the errors and making us aware of them while both Kes and I were making the actual corrections. Carlos introduced the team to the Oracle Workbench software which both Kes and I have found extremely useful. It has raised the level of all of our work. Carlos was a whiz at hibiscus nomenclature but recently retired from this volunteer work. He's going to be greatly missed!!!
- 5) Reprogramming and maintaining code for database pages on the internet. This has mostly been done by Kes and myself with some assistance from paid professional programmers.
- 6) Compiling, printing and mailing a hard copy of the new cultivars registered document for the International Society for Horticultural Science. This has so far been done by Kes Winwood.



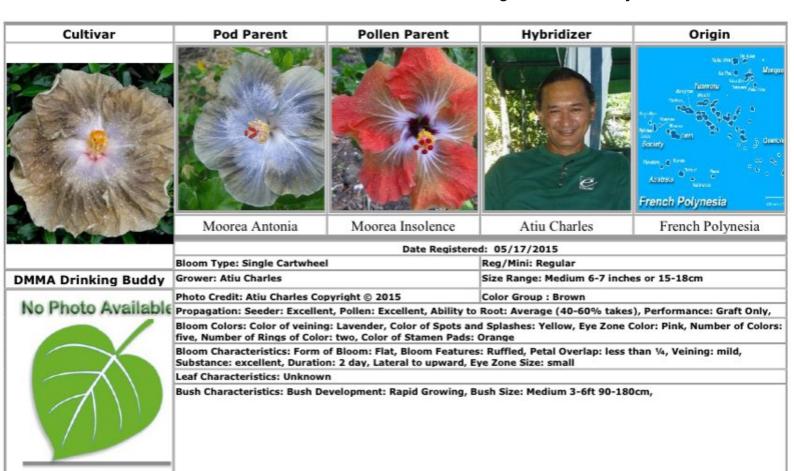
# WHEN AND WHY YOU SHOULD REGISTER YOUR PLANT

When a new seedling has bloomed and has been evaluated for its merits. When it has been deemed to be worthy of keeping and has been propagated, the new hybrid can be considered a new cultivar and should be registered with the ICRA.

It should be registered to ensure, first and foremost, that the new name meets the requirements which would make it a good name useable by the entire Hibiscus community. Also so that it can be added to the database where all Hibiscus enthusiasts have access to the information associated with the new cultivar.

#### WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION!

The database is only as good as the involvement of the entire Hibiscus community in making it complete. Please register your new hybrids with us and check first if your new hybrid name is OK. If you know of any well known old hybrids not listed in our database or any other missing data let us know so that we can make it more complete. If you would like to get involved as a volunteer in maintaining the database just let us know!



You can do a more detailed search for specifics such as colour group at: http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/SEArchive/SEindex1.php

#### PETAL PERFECT

#### HAFEZ ZAHRUDDIN SHARES HIS SKETCH BOOK



Hafez, who teaches English in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia treated us to some wonderful, wacky sketches inspired by Hibiscus petals. We think they are TERRIFIC! Thank you Hafez!



#### TODD ALVIS CREATES A HIBISCUS PARADISE

#### AND DAMON VEACH WAS THERE TO TELL US ALL ABOUT IT

Dear Diary ...

It's early coffee time today. I'm sure I will find myself sitting in my back garden for another cup later this morning, but my front garden has so many of my prized plants located there now that it will make my front porch much more inviting for an afternoon glass of wine. I thought I would share a few pictures with you from the Alvis place in Hammond, Louisianna.

I wanted to show you Todd's handiwork with his elevated Hibiscus patio. Looking from the greenhouse toward the main house, I really didn't realize that the platform containing all the Hibiscus plants was actually built as an elevated extension of the gazebo. There was a low area here so instead of bringing in a load of dirt to level out and keep water from standing in the yard, Todd decided to build an elevated Hibiscus patio that connects to the gazebo and house.





Views of the Hibiscus deck with the greenhouse in the background (above) and the gazebo (below).





All I can tell you is that this is the most amazing patio I've ever seen. I have no idea how many Hibiscus will eventually end up here, but knowing our weather conditions in the winter months I have to believe that some kind of cover will go over this or another big greenhouse will be added to hold all these plants when the temperatures drop.

Even this elevated patio is on two levels with three different steps for entrance from the yard, patio, and enclosed lower patio where the swimming pool is located. I should have taken more pictures, but you would almost need a video to get actually acquainted with this really amazing display area. Referring to it as a deck does not do this structure justice. It is definitely an elevated (multi-level) Hibiscus patio with supports anchored in concrete.





I am sure we would all like to say a big 'THANK YOU' to Damon for photographing and sharing Todd's amazing work! What a labour of love! Most of us can only dream of such a perfect Hibiscus paradise!

Todd Alvis (left) and Danny pose for a quick photo during their work on the amazing deck.

HIBISCUS INTERNATIONAL



#### HOT TIPS! AVOID FERTILIZER BURN

by Diego Dominguez

When you fertilize be careful not to apply the same dose to both mature and immature plants. If you do, the results might be similar to the ones shown here!



# Photo by Edwin Guzman

#### TREASURE THAT WOOD!

by Gail Cahi

Prepare all of your cuttings for rooting and then let them soak in a bath of water for +/- 12 hours to make certain that they have fully rehydrated before using the rooting hormone and planting. If you are using a liquid rooting hormone, let them stand in it for 30 minutes before planting, don't just dip them in as the instructions say.

I got this tip from a top Camellia horticulturist and it works. I also scrape the "grey" bark for about one inch around the planting end, so that the green cambium is showing before putting the cuttings in the liquid hormone.



Left: 'Mad Ali' shared this photo with Facebook.

This old Hibiscus plant was spotted in a village in Sabah (North Borneo), Malaysia.



Above: A hand-painted Hibiscus wine glass by LemonTreeWorkshop found on Etsy. Gorgeous!

#### **ALL RIGHTS RESERVED**

#### **OFFICE BEARERS**

President: Kes Winwood: Vice-President: Peter Moll: Sec./Treasurer: Dick Johnson

**BOARD MEMBERS** 

Eurasia (EU): Taner Turt : Petar Tiholov : Eurasia (Russia): Elena Tabuntsova

Indian Subcontinent: Pushpa Suresh: Oceania: Joseph Bautista

Africa: Gail Cahi : Orient: Bi Yu Jin

N. America: Damon Veach: S. America: Elizabeth Jordan: Australia: Sue Lansdown

Wild Card Reps: Wendy Williams: Doyle Williams

ICRAR: Ian Rabenda

PRESIDENT EMERITUS: Richard Johnson

Web Address - www.internationalhibiscussociety.org E-mail Address - InternationalHibiscusSociety@yahoogroups.com

I.H.S. PATRON - DAVID FRANZMAN