

Hibiscus International

The Official Publication of the International Hibiscus Society

www.internationalhibiscussociety.org

Volume 8, Number 3, Issue No.36

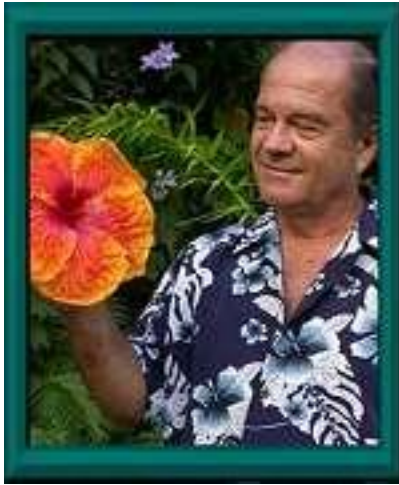
July, August & September 2008



EDITOR: Richard Johnson, Tahiti, French Polynesia diveta@mail.pf

INDEX

From The Presidents by Richard Johnson	<u>2</u>
From The Editor: Richard Johnson	<u>2</u>
Secretary/Treasurers Report: Wayne Hall.....	<u>3</u>
Board Of Directors	<u>3</u>
Treasury	<u>4</u>
Committee Reports	
EIHf: Executive International Hibiscus Forum	<u>5</u>
IHS Auction Committee Forum.....	<u>5</u>
IHS Hibiscus International (cyber publication) Forum	<u>6</u>
IHS HOTY (Hibiscus Of The Year) Forum	<u>6</u>
IHS Marketing Forum	<u>7</u>
IHS Membership Committee (no forum)	<u>7</u>
IHS Statutes Revision Forum	<u>8</u>
HIS Web Site Forum	<u>8</u>
Rainbow Hibiscus by Richard Johnson	<u>9</u>
IHS Patrons	<u>24</u>



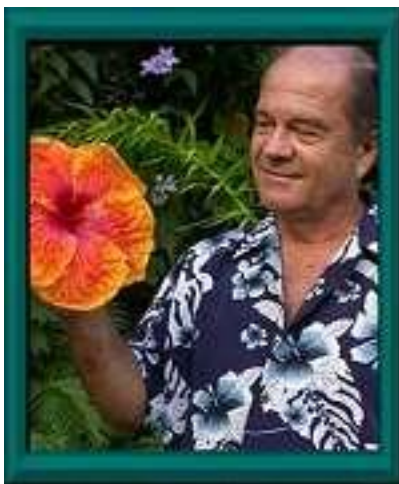
From The President

The IHS continues to evolve as we have now democratically elected the 4th Board of Directors, including a number of new faces. Normally, as the 1st President and founder of the IHS, I would have preferred we continue with new blood, but as there seem a number of things that need be tended to, I accepted the nomination as the 6th IHS President. I thank you for your confidence in me, and although the task ahead is a formidable one, with the cooperation of the new BOD and your

continued support, I believe we will make progress. Even when we have people with the best of intentions, from time to time we take a couple of steps backward for every dozen we advance, but in the long term progress is made and we continue to contribute to the international hibiscus community.

One of our greatest problems is finding talented people to aid us in the many tasks our society has undertaken. At the present, one of our most pressing needs is for a web master for our web site: www.internationalhibiscussociety.org.

Should any of you reading this want to assist or know of others that might, please contact me at diveta@mail.pf



From The Editor

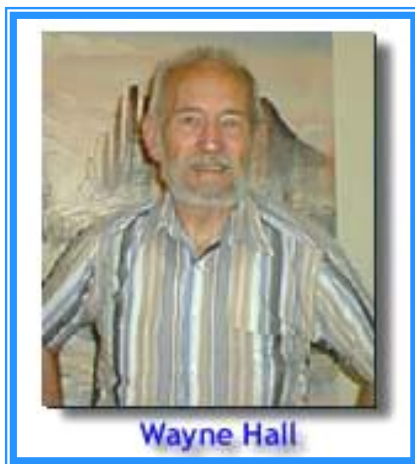
Because of the unfortunate resignation of Constantino Dominguez as editor of Hibiscus International, in January 2009, for lack of a replacement, I am fulfilling this position for an interim period until another can take over this task. As a result this H.I. publication, for the third quarter of 2008, is being done retroactively. I will also attempt to do the last issue of 2008 retroactively. Unfortunately, there are just too many missed publications to do any other retroactive issues.

In the meantime I am very pleased to announce that Jim Purdie will be taking over as Editor of H.I. as of the first issue for 2009. We are happy Jim has

volunteered for this important task. Not only will H.I. provide you information on what the IHS is doing on your behalf via the various reports on IHS activities, it will at the same provide articles of interest. We are confident Jim will do an excellent job and keep H.I. on track with its quarterly publications.

As we would like H.I. to be as international as possible we are also in need of people to translate articles from their original text, which can be submitted in most any language - most commonly in English, Spanish or French. Most of all, we depend upon contributions of articles from members of the hibiscus community. If you can write new material or have previously written material that you would like to see become a permanent record on our web site, the entire hibiscus community will be thankful.

I appeal to those of you reading this who might want to contribute to the entire hibiscus community in the above regard to please contact me Jim Purdie at jpu11707@bigpond.net.au



Secretary/Treasurers Report

IHS BOD, Board Of Directors Committee Forum

Established: August 2000

Objective: To handle all the administrative affairs of the IHS including approval of all committee recommendations.

Members include:

President: Richard Johnson
Vice President: Françoise Levavasseur
Secretary / Treasurer: Wayne Hall
IHS Membership Committee Chairwoman: Nina Bjelovucic
Past President: Constantino Dominguez
Australia Rep: Jim Purdie
South American Rep: Elizabeth Jordan
Euro Rep: Denis Bojic
Indian Rep: Raj Patil
Pacific Rep: Charles Atiu
USA Rep: Bob Carran
Web Master TGHL: Joseph Dimino

Communications: 37 in July, 192 in August and 100 in September.

**Secretary/Treasurer Report
July, August, September 2008**

The contact information for the Board of Directors and Area Representatives has been updated and can be viewed in the Statutes section of the IHS Web Site.

www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/

The Board of Directors has unanimously agreed to allow Tai Phan access to the IHS web site. Tai has generously volunteered to donate several hours of his time every month to perform minor maintenance tasks and some updates to the website.

The BOD has approved several changes in the IHS Seed Bank procedures, contact Peter Moll, Seed Bank Officer pelimo01@yahoo.com.br, or go to the link below for more information.

http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org/seed_bank_index_page.htm

Treasury

The Treasurer has transferred funds from the idle PayPal account to the IHS interest bearing account and the new IHS fund balance is now \$876.68 USD as of 30 SEP 2008. The PayPal account can be re-activated for future use at anytime.

Committee Reports – Alphabetically

by Richard Johnson unless otherwise stated

EIHF: Executive International Hibiscus Forum

Established: January 2006

Objective: A forum for the discussion of global hibiscus matters at the executive level.

Members: Brian Cheers, President AuHS (unofficial member)
Joseph Dimino – IHS Nomenclature Officer
Nadeen Pickard – Canadian Hibiscus Society
Richard Johnson, IHS President

Communications: None for this period – status inactive

IHS Auction Committee Forum

Established: June 2007

Objective: To develop the IHS Auction.

Members: Constantino Dominguez, IHS Past President
Elizabeth Jordan, South American Rep
Francoise Levavasseur, Vice President, IHS
Linda Eastman – IHS Member
Nina Bjelovucic, IHS Membership Committee Chairwoman
Richard Johnson, Pacific Rep
Raj Patill, Indian Rep

Communications: 5 in September

New members were added, with the ensuing confirmation of communications. The rest of the discussions related to considering using eBay for IHS auctions, but the thread terminated without any definitive decisions.

IHS Hibiscus International Committee Forum

Established: August 2008

Objective: Team to assist the Editor of H.I. in accomplished his tasks.

**Members: Constantino Dominguez, “then” Editor H.I.
Francoise Levavasseur, IHS Vice President
Richard Johnson, IHS President
Wayne Hall, IHS Sec/Tres**

Communications: 12 in August 2008

Since Hibiscus International, our cyber publication, has been in limbo for an extended period, as the new president, in accordance with our statutes, I formed this committee to get H.I. back on track. It was hoped that the members of the committee would be able to aid the editor in completing his task.

There were several communications just to determine that all members were present.

Constantino was asked to provide a chronology of H.I. issues, i.e., those archived on the web site, those pending, those missing and the deadline for the next pending issue, as a point of departure so that we could get H.I. functioning once again.

IHS HOTY, Hibiscus Of The Year Committee Forum

Established: May 2001

Objective: Develop SOTY & HOTY program (subject to IHS BOD approval) and judge entries in those programs and the Trimestiral Photo Contest.

Members include:

IHS President: Richard Johnson

Australia: Jim Purdie

Brazil: Antonio Romeu & Elizabeth Jordan

Germany: Ursula Lengdabler

Holland: Hendrik Gommer

Uruguay: Constantino Dominguez

USA: Charles Black & Janice McNatt

IHS HOTY Coordinator: Nina Bjelovucic
Communications: 12 in July 23 in August and 30 in September.

The majority of communications related to Nina forwarding trialing reports for the various trialing stations.

Jim has been adding that information to the judge's web site.

Discussions were held concerning the selection of the first IHS HOTY for 2003. As trialing station data has fallen short of what had been hoped for and as per a previous modification of the HOTY rules approved by the BOD, additional grower information is being sought.

The propagation station progress report was submitted.

There was discussion about the present trialing stations, problems and progress of each.

Jim introduced preparatory discussions concerning the upcoming SOTY and TPC.

IHS Marketing Committee Forum

Established: June 2007

Objective: To develop a sponsorship or marketing program.

Members: Richard Johnson, IHS President

Communications: None for this period- Inactive

IHS Membership Committee - No Forum

by Nina Bjelovucic

Established: ? 2001

Objective: To aid in developing IHS membership.

Members: Nina Bjelovucic, IHS Membership Committee Chair

The aim is to make a small group of 4-5 people, who are already the members of their national plant forums where the hibiscus topic already exists. These people would try to advertise the IHS in those forums and thus attract members. Some communications in that regard have been made. The problem encountered is the language.

IHS Statutes Revision Committee Forum

Established: January 2004

Objective: To review and propose to the BOD statutes revisions.

Members: Richard Johnson, IHS President

Communications: None for this period – Inactive

IHS Web Site Committee Forum

Established: December 2006

Objective: To aid and coordinate web site activities.

Members: Maurice Rougoor – Outside Help

Jim Purdie, IHS Oz Rep

Joseph Dimino, IHS Nomenclature Officer

Richard Johnson, IHS President

Communications: 10 in August 5 in September

Augusts discussion were mostly getting Maurice subscribed and introduce.

Joseph, in spite his failing health, updated the IHS Nomenclature database.

There was some technical discussion between Maurice and Joseph, in trying to get Maurice up to speed.

There were discussions between Joseph and Dick as to how to load the IHS CD into the Vista operating system, as it was made for an earlier operating system.

Hybridizing – Rainbow Hibiscus

By Richard Johnson

The below was spurred by a post on Hibiscusmania, and is mostly for those that wonder how some really unusual hibiscus are created.

Hybridizing is done in many ways. Its most basic form is what is often called pollen dusting, i.e., pollinating everything in sight with minimal consideration as to what might result and selecting the best of seedlings. This is the shot gun approach, but one that has probably produced the majority of the most popular flowers.

When one goes beyond pollen dusting, they learn that certain parents will pass on certain traits. Mass market Euro hybridizers and propagators only use specific parents for their pot plant requirements and are very hesitant to introduce other genes into that line of breeding. Basically they seek first and foremost, only plants that will grow on their own root. Afterward, they must be early bloomers, for otherwise they take up space on the bench to mature. They must produce multiple branches when pinched or pruned, large flowers are somewhat selected against since they don't ship well and they must be floriferous. Moreover, they augment compact size and floriferousness by the application of grown retardants. All of that has resulted for the most part in ignoring the flower, meaning if the other characteristics are there, the prettiest blooms will do. You would be shocked at the beautiful seedlings they destroy, since the other criteria are not there.

Other hybridizers like myself are more interested in the bloom, but of course still want as many of the other desirable characteristics as possible. First one quickly learns red and pink are quite dominant and that white is a rarity. One also very quickly comes to find there is a relationship between blue and brown spectrum cvs, i.e., crossing blues can produce browns and visa versa. Sometimes putting a dark brown on a blue will intensify color in both spectrum seedlings. In this regard one also comes to find that certain parents will produce, for example, a lot of white rims in the progeny (Grand Hyatt, T. Cherry Blossom, etc.), some large dark eyes (Herm Geller), etc. I

refer to these as white rim makers, dark eye makers, etc. The above are just examples as there are lots of different characteristics like these that are passed on to the progeny, and I've identified and use several different "makers" to accentuate those characteristics. Using these characteristic to get better results with the theme characteristic is hybridizing by design or designer hybridizing. Still luck plays a big roll as all we are doing is coaxing mother nature to produce what we want by increasing the odds in our favor. This generally means that numbers are important, i.e., growing many, many seedlings with the potential for the characteristic we are seeking.

I very much like rainbow hibiscus which I define as concentric rings of color. There are lots of parents that can produce this effect, i.e., Fifth Dimension and its progeny like Lunar Dust; Jazz, Grand Hyatt, M. Imperial Blossom, etc. This is a line of breeding (designer hybridizing) that I've been working on for several years. It started with a few chance seedlings in the rainbow spectrum, and has gone on to using a few seedlings that I call rainbow makers, i.e., Tahitian Rainbows, Tahitian Rainbow Queen and I'm hoping a third, Tahitian Pink Princess will do the same. At least the former two do pass on their rainbow effect, sometimes a generation or two later, and not always in the pink spectrum but sometimes in the brown spectrum. I'm hoping Angella's Rainbow will add to this line of breeding, although I'm a little skeptical as I'm afraid its small size will also be passed on which is not one of my goals. I seem to get enough miniature and small flowered varieties without breeding for them, although rarely I make specific miniature crosses.



1) Tahitian Rainbows: (Fifth Dimension x Tamibon) 7.5 to 8", thinnish substance, diagonal to upright presentation on the bush.



2) Tahitian Rainbow Queen: (Miss Liberty x T. Magenta Beauty} 7.5 to 8", presented diagonally upward on the bush, fades and petals form a star shaped bloom later in the day - at least in my climate.



3) Tahitian Pink Princess: (Grand Hyatt x Silver Memories) 8", faces diagonally to upward on the bush, fades only somewhat, holds good form for two days. Sibling to T. Princess.



4) Tahitian Princess (Grand Hyatt x Silver Memories) 8.5", good substance, faces mostly upward on the seedling bush, fades on 2nd day to gray and white. Although Tahitian Princess might be considered a rainbow hibiscus with gray, pink and white concentric rings of color, it does not have a pronounced tendency to pass these on to its progeny.



5) Angella's Rainbow (Charles Atiu Creation) about 5-6", faces upward, good seed setter. Mine is just as of today developing the colors as per Charles description.

The first rainbow maker I identified was Tahitian Rainbows (pictured above), that has produced a series of rainbow like seedlings, which are pictured below. Some are more rainbow like than others, but all have a least two concentric rings of color. Moreover, I have seedlings without labels, hence parentage unknown, but that look like Tahitian Rainbows is one of the parents.



Tahitian Lavender Pastel (Grand Hyatt x Tahitian Rainbows) This one is an 8" (20 cm) bloom, but with thin substance which results on occasion in poor symmetry.



Unnamed Seedling (Grand Hyatt x Tahitian Rainbows) 8" (20 cm).



Tahitian Orange Rainbow (1458-3 Romeo x Nightfire} x T. Rainbow. 7.5" (19 cm) average substance, good form, lateral to upward presentation on the bush.



Tahitian Rainbow Sands (Antique Rose x T. Rainbows) 7.5" (19 cm). Average substance, good form - rainbow effect varies with maturity and season being most intense in mature blooms during Tahiti's cooler season - temps around 75 F (23 C)



Tahitian Romance (Grand Hyatt x Tahitian Rainbows) 7.5" (19 cm) 7.6-8" (19 - 20 cm). Color is fairly stable, but it recurves a bit on occasion.



Tahitian Tauhi (T. Cherry Blossom x Tahitian Rainbows) 7.5-8" (19 - 20 cm), color stable, good form.

The second seedling I identified that produces rainbow hibiscus in its progeny was Tahitian Rainbow Queen, pictured below and followed by some of its offspring.



Tahitian Rainbow Queen (Miss Liberty x Tahitian Magenta Beauty): This is a 7.5 - 8" (19 - 20 cm) bloom. Unfortunately, it fades and then takes on a star shaped form, but it does pass on its rainbow effect. It's opening form and color is quite impressive.



(Smokey Mountain x Tahitian Rainbow Queen): This is only around a 6" (15 cm) bloom, but unfortunately has thin substance and less than ideal form. It has definitely inherited the rainbow effect from Tahitian Rainbow Queen.



(Smokey Mountain x Tahitian Rainbow Queen): This is a pod sibling of the above and also only around a 6" (15 cm) bloom. Likewise, it unfortunately has thin substance and less than ideal form, but again has definitely inherited the rainbow effect from Tahitian Rainbow Queen. As this one is brown toned (more so than in the above photo), I deduct that the blue in the rainbow coloration has the same relation to brown as do more uniform blues and browns. In other words rainbow blues can produce rainbow brown toned hibiscus.



Tahitian Mystery Rainbow (Tahitian Rainbow Queen x Unknown): This one is a 7-7.5 in (18 19 cm) bloom. It has a nice rainbow effect, although the petal overlap could be better.



(Tahitian Rainbow Queen x Unknown): This is a pod sibling of the above and is also a 7.75 in (18 19 cm) bloom. Its rainbow effect is more subdued, although this faded afternoon photo doesn't do it justice, and in this case the petal overlap is much improved.



Tahitian Imperial Rainbow (Tahitian Rainbow Queen x M. Imperial Blossom): This one is around a 7" (19 cm) bloom of good form, although the rainbow effect is more limited.

Still the search goes on for a more ideal rainbow hibiscus. The obvious next step is to cross Tahitian Rainbows and Tahitian Rainbow Queen. I'm only starting to get results of this effort and will have to remake this cross, but from

the below, you can see this method of selection is working. Nevertheless, this story continues as the quest for better rainbow hibiscus continues.



(Tahitian Rainbow Queen x Tahitian Rainbows): This one has an excellent rainbow effect, decent petal overlap, although for me the size it a bit lacking at around 6-6.5" (15 -17 cm). Too it fades a bit more than would be desirable

I have a number of other rainbow seedlings that I'm working into mix as below:



Tahitian Super Star (Lunar Dust x Fourth Of July): This is a 8" bloom of good substance. However it some times lacks most of the white rim and the flower is presented mostly laterally on the bush.



(Fifth Dimension x Jayella): Quite decent in most characteristics, although it fades somewhat and is only around 6.5" [17 cm]



Tahitian Dawn (Lunar Dust x Lora): This one looks very much like the pod parent, but is more color fast. It is again smallish at around 6.5" [17 cm]



(Midnight Blue x Antique Rose): This one is around 6" (15 cm). Frequently it has less than ideal symmetry, but when it is good it is great.



Tahitian Magenta Star (Grand Hyatt x Impossible Dream): This one is around 8" (20 cm), has good petal overlap and form. The rainbow effect is sometimes more subdued.



Tahitian Midnight Magic (Midnight Blue x Grand Hyatt). This one is a near 8" (20 cm) bloom with good petal over lap and symmetry. Very promising.



Tahitian Fleuro Star (Midnight Blue x Brigette Dimino): This one is around 6 to 7", has excellent form and rainbow effect.



Tahitian Imperial Topaz (Fifth Dimension x Tahitian Sophistication): This is about an 8" (20 cm) flower. It recurves some and has a little edge curl, but is quite promising and potentially useful in creating new rainbow hibiscus.

The adventure continues.

Happy Hibiscus Growing To All

Dick Johnson, Tahiti
www.hibiscus-of-tahiti



Volume 8, No. 3, Issue 36

Hibiscus International

July, Aug., Sept. 2008



IHS Patrons

David Franzman

oooOOOooo

All Rights Reserved © 2004

Articles for use in this publication should be submitted by e-mail to the Editor at:
diveta@mail.pf
