



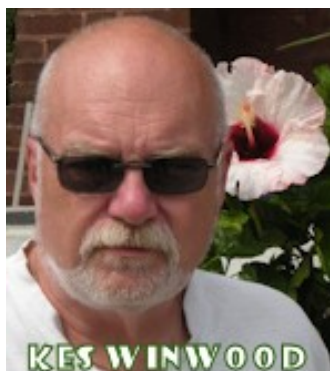
# Hibiscus International

Jul. Aug. Sep. 2011

Vol.11 No3- Issue 48



Tah. Princess  
2003 HOTA



KES WINWOOD



Tah. Trop. Splendor  
2004 HOTA

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST :

- > **Presidents Message**  
**Page 1**
- >
- > **Editors Report Page 2**

INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE :

**Inside Story**

**Joseph Dimino Award**  
**Article Pages 3 to 8**

**Inside Story**

**July Auction Results Page**  
**9**

**Inside Story**

**Hibiscus by Design**  
**Article Pages 10 to 13**

**Inside Story**

**Floral Album Page 14**

**Inside Story**

**Floral Album Page 15**

**Inside Story**

**Floral Album Page 16**

**Inside Story**

**Floral Album Page 17**

Greetings to all hibiscus lovers,

Once again we are at that time of season change that has arrived too quickly for those in the northern hemisphere and not soon enough for our friends in the southern hemisphere. Soon those of us in northern climes will have to bring our plants inside for the cool autumn and the cold winter months ahead.

Even though our plants may be resting for the winter, your executive will be hard at work on a number of projects that are ongoing. Chief among them is the transition of our web presence to the new site. These long winter days when there is no gardening to do will provide ample time for our webmaster to concentrate on the website more fully. It is his hope that the task will be completed within the year limit that he has set for the task. If all goes well, the job should be near completion by the time spring is upon us.

In the meantime, the former website has taken on a new, fresher look thanks to Joseph Dimino. Although Joseph is no longer the webmaster, he took it upon himself to “reimagine” the look of the website to keep it fresh and alive while work continues quietly on the new site. This was purely a labour of love on his part and we are deeply grateful for his ongoing interest in this project.

Some of our regular features such as TPC (The Photo Competition) and the SOTY (Seedling of the Year) have not been able to be run on their normal schedule due to the lack of

manpower to accomplish everything at once. Hopefully as the new website becomes active, these programs and all others will be back and functioning normally. However, our active volunteers are quite frankly overwhelmed and can only do so much and still have a normal life and nurture our favourite plant as well.

As the old saying goes—many hands lighten the load—and we certainly could use a few more hands to help us. Perhaps you don't think you have the skills to help, but there are a great many things that need to be done and not enough time or people to do them all. If you would like to help in any way at all, please contact the webmaster or myself at either [box1618@gmail.com](mailto:box1618@gmail.com) or [keswin@wightman.ca](mailto:keswin@wightman.ca)

---

## EDITORS REPORT

In this issue we feature an article about the creation of the Joseph Dimino award and the first recipient of the award—Joseph himself. I hope all members find the article and pictures interesting as Joseph is surprised by the unexpected award.

Also featured is a short excerpt from an unpublished book written by Dick Johnson entitled “Hibiscus Magic” and with his permission we may feature future passages from this yet to be completed work.

As well, we will be featuring articles on our propagation and trialing stations and how they are the backbone of our HOTY (Hibiscus of the Year) program.

To submit ideas or articles please contact [keswin@wightman.ca](mailto:keswin@wightman.ca)

---

### ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

#### OFFICE BEARERS

**President**— Kes Winwood : **Vice-President** : Ian Rabenda : **Sec./Treasurer** : Clay McGee:

**Past President** : Richard Johnson :

#### Board Members

**European** : Nina Bjelovucic : **Asian** : Alan James de la Torre : **Oceania** : Charles Atiu

:

**N. American** : Sonny Stollings : **S American** : Elizabeth Jordan : **Australia** : Jim Purdie :

**S. African** : Gail Cahi :

**Editor** : Kes Winwood :

**Web Master** : Ian Rabenda :

**Web Address**— [www.internationalhibiscussociety.org](http://www.internationalhibiscussociety.org)

**E-mail Address**— [InternationalHibiscusSociety@yahoo.com](mailto:InternationalHibiscusSociety@yahoo.com)

**I.H.S. PATRON— DAVID FRANZMAN**

**JOSEPH  
DIMINO  
AWARD**

International Hibiscus Society

**Recipient: Joseph Dimino**

*In appreciation for years of dedicated, ingenious work  
which has yielded the ground-breaking TGHL*

**2011**



**T**he IHS and the entire hibiscus world owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Joseph Dimino for his major contributions. He has spent untold hours of work in developing the IHS web site and in particular TGHL "The Global Hibiscus Library" and its many features including the IHS/Dimino On Line Registration system. Joseph has been suffering from a long term illness for many years. As therapy to occupy his mind, combined with his passion for hibiscus, he took over from Richard Johnson as the IHS web master. He built upon what Dick had begun, and made a number of improvements to the web site. However, the real legacy was his development of TGHL and its many features, which are a completely different addition to the IHS web site. This legacy was developed over many years, with Joseph having spent literally thousands of hours in its creation. It amounts to a gift to the entire global hibiscus community, in the form of features freely accessible by anyone on the internet.

TGHL is the database maintained by the IHS. With such a major work there are always things in need of optimization, which are still being undertaken where possible. TGHL originated with the public domain information contained in the international hibiscus registry, itself a compendium of the nomenclature works by many people over several decades, particularly Chris Noble, the International Cultivar Registration Authority Registrar "ICRAR" at that time. The international hibiscus registry is maintained by the Australian Hibiscus Society as the International Cultivar Registration Authority "ICRA" under the auspices of the International Society of Horticultural Sciences "ISHS", working under the United Nations charter for nomenclature. Through the courtesy of the American Hibiscus Society, Joseph obtained permission to use the photos in their collection.

With such an outstanding contribution to the society that Joseph Dimino had provided over the years there was no question about whom to name the award. When approached, Joseph was flattered that the most prestigious award the IHS could bestow on any member was to be named in his honour and graciously permitted us to name the award after him.

An awards committee made up of IHS members from various parts of the world was established to find a suitable award to represent an outstanding contribution to the IHS in particular and to the world hibiscus community as a whole. This task proved to be a far more difficult one than first imagined. After searching among many online companies that offered trophies of various kinds, the committee realized that an award of this significance needed to be obtained from a source near to one of the committee members to ensure both quality and workmanship.



As luck would have it, a company was found in Dallas, TX near the home of the chairman of the committee and in their catalogue was found the trophy that was ultimately chosen by the committee unanimously. The trophy is made of clear crystal in the shape of a flame with colour “flames” in the interior. It stands over 15 inches in height (38 cm) and weighs approximately 35 lbs. ( 15.8 kilos). As can be seen from the photo, it is indeed a striking award standing on a base which contains the plaque with the inscription which appears at the beginning on this article.

Our next task was to arrange to ship the completed award to Italy quickly and safely but also to make it a complete surprise for Joseph and his wife. In order to do this, we arranged to ship the award to Carmelo Donato who runs our propagation and trialing station in Palermo. Carmelo kindly agreed to take time from his busy schedule and to drive across the island of Sicily to Sciacca where Joseph lives.

The parcel was sent to Carmelo by UPS from Dallas, TX and a little over a week later it had arrived in Palermo. All that remained was for Carmelo to drive to Sciacca to visit Joseph (which he does often) and to surprise Joseph with

the award from the IHS.

On the following pages you can see Joseph and his wife Brigette as they open this rather large parcel to reveal the award that he so richly deserves. As well, you can read his response to the BOD as well as view some candid family photos of the Diminos.









Hello Members of the BOD,

I would like to thank you all for the award. WOW WHAT A SURPRISE!! I never would have thought to receive this award from IHS.

The day that Carmelo called me and told me that he was coming to my town for a visit, I knew that he would have brought me a couple of plants from his nursery (that's what he always does), I did not expect anything else, but then he came in with a hand bag and told me that he was asked to bring this special award personally from the IHS BOD, I'm not sure how to explain my emotions at that moment, I was amazed and baffled at the same time, I had no words to describe my feelings , when I opened the package a shade of tear came out and Carmelo captured it, in a

photo, I was overwhelmed with joy, I haven't felt this way for the last 10 years of my life.

I want to thank you all one by one and all others that made this possible for me. I FEEL GREAT!!!

Thank you Thank you Thank you  
Regards JD



*I must say that Joseph is one of the most sensitive and kind people I have ever come across in my life. His wife is an extremely generous and caring person and I am happy the world of hibiscus has got me in touch with this fantastic person. The award has been an extremely appreciated gift which made him, and his wife too, emotional. There could not have been a more elegant and warm way to thank him for his admirable work and endless dedication to the flower we all love and which helps all of us share our feelings across the world.*

- Carmelo Donato



Family photos kindly provided by Joseph Dimino





# JULY AUCTION REPORT

**A**s can be seen from the chart to the right of this article, our last seed auction held in early July was a resounding success. This chart illustrates the gross sales, the PayPal fees charged and the resulting net realized.

As well there were EBay insertion fees, final value fees and postage costs totaling another \$ 115.74 leaving us with a net profit of approximately \$654.45 US.

This auction saw bids from around the world with winning bids from Sweden, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Malaysia, France , Canada, United States, Denmark and Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Of course the success of these auctions lies entirely with those unselfish hybridizers who donate their valuable seeds to provide the IHS with a product to sell. Our deepest thanks go to Beth Jordan, Peter Moll, Ursula Legendobler, Richard Johnson, Ian Rabenda, Charles Atiu, Sonny Stollings and others for their ongoing support.

Gross	Fee	Net
(\$61.00)	\$2.38	(\$58.62)
\$19.50	(\$1.06)	\$18.44
\$158.00	(\$6.46)	\$151.54
\$152.27	(\$6.24)	\$146.03
\$36.00	(\$1.34)	\$34.66
\$97.27	(\$4.09)	\$93.18
\$64.00	(\$2.80)	\$61.20
\$61.52	(\$2.70)	\$58.82
\$26.50	(\$1.07)	\$25.43
\$16.00	(\$0.92)	\$15.08
(\$14.50)	\$0.42	(\$14.08)
\$20.75	(\$0.90)	\$19.85
\$31.50	(\$1.21)	\$30.29
\$23.00	(\$1.20)	\$21.80
\$40.60	(\$1.48)	\$39.12
\$38.50	(\$1.42)	\$37.08
\$28.50	(\$1.13)	\$27.37
\$42.50	(\$1.53)	\$40.97
\$23.00	(\$0.97)	\$22.03
\$803.91	(\$33.72)	\$770.19



## UPCOMING IHS SEED AUCTION OCTOBER 30TH - NOVEMBER 6TH



# Hibiscus By Design:

Excerpt from an unpublished manuscript *Hibiscus Magic*, © 2005 by Richard Johnson  
Pictures: various authors from the mailing list

In hybridizing there are at least two basic approaches. One is to cross most everything available and select from the results what one wants. The other is to have some basic goals and using the knowledge that is available create a hibiscus by design. This basically involves developing knowledge of what characteristic might be passed on by certain hybrids or those in ones collections – the latter requiring experience based on good record keeping. Below is a starting point and guide to deriving certain characteristics by increasing the design possibilities and minimizing having to rely on pure chance combinations.

**Double Makers:** Most any double crossed with another double will produce a good number of progeny that are doubles. Rosalind is a famous parent and a good one from which to get both singles and doubles. It additionally tends to produce progeny with blooms in sunset tones and with good bushes.



**White Rim Makers:** Byron Metts and Grand Hyatt, often produce progeny with white rims. The former often produces mostly white blooms with hues of pink, while the latter often produce hues in the pink/lavender/gray spectrum.

**Dark Eye Makers:** Herm Geller will often pass on a large dark eye as well as a number of brown progeny. Depending upon the other parent it can produce different colors and interesting color variations often with fancy form like ruffles and tufts.





**White Eye Makers:** Hot Paprika, The Path on occasion pass on white eyes to their progeny.

**Exotic Eye Zone Makers:** Jazz, Lunar Dust, Ruby N Pearl are just a few that can produce exotic or metallic looking eye zones.



**Vein and Spiral Pattern Makers:** Oliver, Georgia's Pearl and Dragon's Breath often produce progeny with veins in varying degrees, and the latter two often with a spiraled pattern.

**Spot and Splash Makers:** Critical Mass, Sun Shower and The Path are among a number of parents that often pass splashed and spotted patterns to their progeny.



**Blue/Brown Makers:** There seems to be a relationship between the two, i.e., browns will often produce blue spectrum progeny and visa versa, blue spectrum plants can produce brown spectrum progeny. However, crosses of the same color are more likely to produce progeny with colors in the same spectrum.

**White Makers:** White although often thought of as the absence of color is actually quite the opposite, i.e., the presence of all colors. Hence, white tends to dominate in their progeny, but often with blending and, of course, as always with a good deal of exceptions. Crossing any two whites is a good method for getting other whites.



**Long Bloom Duration Makers:** Certain varieties, tend to have blooms that last more than a day. This is a trait often passed on to progeny. Parents notable for passing on this trait are Fourth Of July, Melody Morace and Santana.

**Own Root Growers:** The ability of a variety to grow well on its own root or the necessity to be grafted, are traits that tend to get passed on to offspring, as always with a liberal amount of exceptions. Most garden varieties root and grow well on their own root. Wallflower, a more modern variety, is a good own root grower and many of its offspring such as Georgia's Pearl are as well. Remember the ability of hibiscus hybrids to grow on their own roots is a relative thing. Some will grow on their own root with a high percentage of cuttings growing successfully, while others may only produce a few successful plants from many trials. Too, even though a plant will initiate roots on its own, doesn't mean that it will perform optimally on them. Some just persist without producing up to their potential, i.e., the potential they might attain if grafted onto stronger root stock.



**Good Bush Makers:** Rosalind and Romeo are two that are noted as often producing progeny with good bushes.



**Multicolor Makers:** Romeo, Fifth Dimension and its progeny often produce multiple colors in their offspring, while Fifth Dimension can also produce a lot of light pastels with varying color hues.

**Dominant Color Makers:** Cheo, Midnight Blue, Silver Memories, Tamibon, Twilight Glow, Tyline often produce progeny with similar colors. This can be used to ones advantage by crossing with parents that might introduce a interesting variation to the basic them. A good example is Tahitian Princess, which has the white rim and pink/lavender hue of Grand Hyatt overlaid on the basic theme of Silver Memories.



**Color Shift Makers:** Fifth Dimension progeny generally exhibit color change or fade, sometimes gracefully as in Fifth Dimension and sometimes not.

## Did You Know That .....

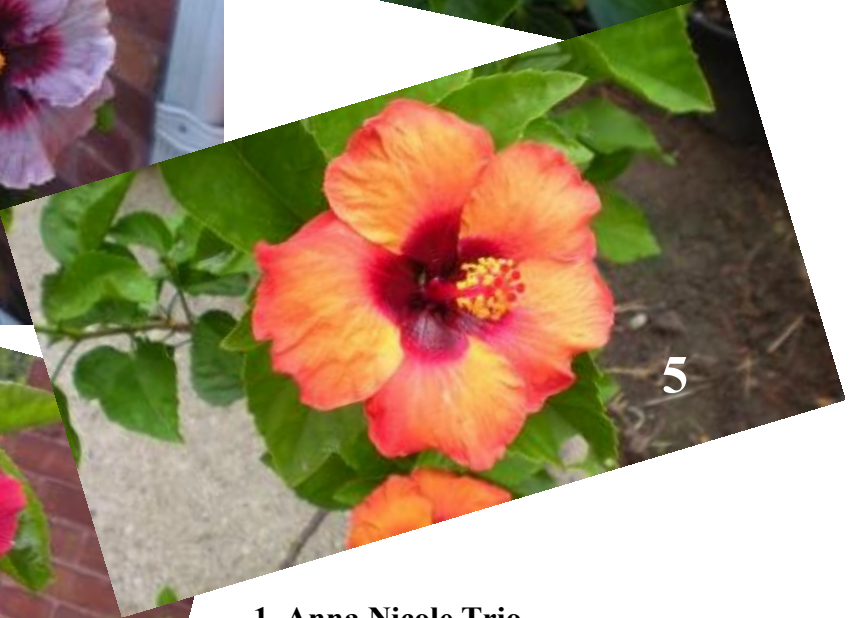
*..... The IHS database contains over 11,399 unique cultivars*

*....Charles Atiu is the hybridizer of 784 registered cultivars*

*....Richard Johnson is a close second as hybridizer of 615 varieties*



# FLORAL ALBUM



1. Anna Nicole Trio
2. Voodoo Magic Duo
3. Marianne Charlton
4. Eye Spy Duo
5. Mis Behavin'
6. Cherry Ice

# FLORAL ALBUM



7. Dixieland Trio  
8. Fifth Dimension  
9. Crawfish Pie  
10. Barry Schlueter

11. T. Celestial Beacon  
12. Yoda  
13. Plum Pizzazz Trio

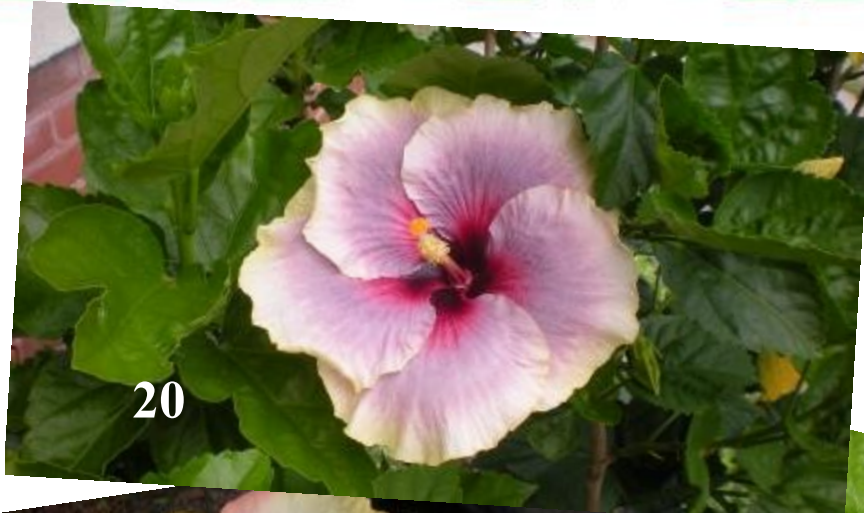
# FLORAL ALBUM



- 14 Amber Suzanne
- 15 Angel's Wings
- 16 Gathering Storm
- 17 Lone Wolf
- 18 Plum Pizzazz, Dixieland & Stolen Kiss
- 19 Wheel Of Fortune



# FLORAL ALBUM



- 20 Tahitian Taii**
- 21 Stolen Kiss**
- 22 Oliver**
- 23 Bodacious Burgundy**
- 24 K Loa Point**
- 25 Snow On The Mountain**