

## AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

Embassy Suites Hotel  
Lake Buena Vista FL

Annual Convention  
June 17 – 20, 2010

### FIRST PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE MEETING, 4 P.M., JUNE 17, 2010

President Eddie Griffith called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: President Eddie Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rita Hall, Secretary Pat Merritt, Chairman of Directors Kathy Grandoff, Treasurer Walter Bisselle, Executive Secretary Val Longson.

The president welcomed everyone to the Convention, and reminded the members present that our focus should remain on the objectives of the American Hibiscus Society.

President Griffith asked the Committee to consider granting a Life Membership to Nola and Carlos Reynolds in recognition of all they do for the Society. On motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved sending this proposal to the Board of Directors.

There was a lengthy discussion about a complaint from a member that there were too many blooms at some of the shows, creating a hardship on the Show Director and his Assistants. On motion made, seconded and unanimously carried, the President's Committee goes on record that it promotes massive numbers of blooms at shows.

The president pointed out that there was some confusion about the election of regional directors during the current election. The Board must ensure that the National Nominating Committee Chairman has a current Policy Manual.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Committee voted to send to the Board a proposal to reinstate the British Virgin Islands Chapter of the AHS.

The Committee requested that Web Master Tom Miller be asked to put the Minutes of the meetings for the last five years on the AHS web page.

President Griffith told the Committee that we need advertisers for The Seed Pod, and someone to aggressively solicit them. A full-page black and white ad is \$100, and one-half page is \$50 per issue. We also need to look into the feasibility of raising these rates. This matter was referred to the Publications Committee for further discussion. Wanda Schmoyer expressed an interest in working on this, so the president appointed her to the Publications Committee.

St. Thomas Chapter President Mario Francis requested reimbursement for \$576 for expenses incurred in the reformation of the BVI Chapter. A copy of his expense report is made a part of these Minutes. On motion made, seconded and unanimously approved, the Committee sent the proposal to the Board of Directions for their consideration.

**FIRST PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE MEETING (con't.)**

Executive Secretary Val Longson submitted a letter of resignation, reluctantly accepted by the Committee.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned.

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### FIRST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 5:30 P.M., JUNE 17, 2010

Chairman of the Board Kathy Grandoff called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: President Eddie Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rita Hall, Secretary Pat Merritt, Chairman of Directors Kathy Grandoff, Treasurer Walter Bisselle, Executive Secretary Val Longson; Directors Bradley Christian, Cindy Erndt, Paul Felsberg, Fred Roush, Joyce Comingore, Ed Flory, Wanda Schmoyer. Absent: Immediate Past National President Sam Andrews, Chapter Presidents' Coordinator Damon Veach.

The Board of Directors affirmed the resolution passed unanimously by the President's Committee that there is no limitation placed on the numbers of blooms brought to and entered in shows.

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the British Virgin Islands Chapter was reinstated as recommended by the President's Committee.

In accordance with AHS stated policy:

**“If anyone wants to start a chapter, the AHS is offering start-up money to help. We will assist with start-up costs such as printing, postage, supplies, etc., as well as guidance for rapid success.”**

On motion made, seconded and unanimously passed the Board approved the reimbursement to Mario Francis of \$576 for expenses in connection with the BVI Chapter reinstatement. Because of the logistics involved in travelling among the Islands, the larger amount was approved.

#### New Business

None

#### Old Business

None

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

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### **COMMITTEES AS A WHOLE, 9 A.M., JUNE 18, 2010**

#### **BYLAWS COMMITTEE**

Second VP Rita Hall called the meeting to order and Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: Don Mixon, Rita Hall, David Tate, Ed Flory. All members present.

The Chairman recommended that the incoming 2<sup>nd</sup> VP obtain a current copy of the bylaws and get them to each Chapter president. There seems to be several vintages being used and the current version needs to be posted on the Society's web site. Director Joyce Comingore will get a copy of the current document to web master Tom Miller.

There was a lengthy discussion about adding a section to the bylaws about the Society operating under the Florida Sunshine Laws. It was determined that the AHS is a private organization with no connection or business dealings with the State of Florida or any county therein, and therefore there is no need to adopt the Sunshine Laws into our bylaws.

A lengthy discussion followed about using the Internet for interim voting on Society business. This will take a bylaws amendment that will be addressed at the fall membership meeting in November 2010.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

#### **BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Treasurer Walter Bisselle called the meeting to order, and provided copies of the Annual Report for the fiscal year June 1, 2009 – May 31, 2010, which is made a part of these Minutes. A deficit is projected for the coming year.

Publications were moved to a smaller storage unit, significantly reducing our cost. There are an estimated 5,200 Tropical Hibiscus Handbooks remaining in storage.

After a general discussion of budget items, including a request from the Archivist for shelving and supplies for use in the B&G Mini Storage unit in Wesley Chapel FL, on motion made and seconded, the budget was passed to the President's Committee for approval.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

## **COMMITTEES AS A WHOLE (con't.)**

### **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Chairman Paul Felsberg called the meeting to order with all members present except Jo Conrad and Roland Gaudet.

The chairman led a discussion about advertising in The Seed Pod. The advertising content cannot exceed 75% of the magazine. A full page black and white ad is \$100, and a full page four-color ad is \$300. Director Wanda Schmoyer has volunteered to undertake the solicitation of advertisers and general fund raising.

The DVD Catalogue supply is completely depleted. After discussion, on motion made and seconded, the chairman was authorized to have 500 copies produced with a budget of \$800. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

### **NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE**

Marti Graves called the meeting to order in the absence of Chairman Sam Andrews. She gave a brief background on the Nomenclature and the current status of the database being hosted by Louisiana State University. LSU has finished their work on the site, but there are still some tweaks we need to make. Space City Chapter member (and a candidate for AHS Director) CJ Melebeck has agreed to volunteer his programming expertise to correct the things we want changed.

A digital image of the AHS logo and a domain name are needed. If we have to go outside of the Society for graphics work on the site, another \$1,000 will be needed.

Cindy Erndt presented a visual program on using the nomenclature web site. The web address is <http://www2.lsuagcenter.com/hibiscus/>. It is ready to use. If you want to register seedling blooms, you must log in; otherwise you can browse the features without logging in. To register blooms, choose a User Name and a Password. Write these down where you can find them.

Pictures should be sent to Pat Merritt at [rozpat@pdq.net](mailto:rozpat@pdq.net) or on a CD snail mailed to her at 9715 Oasis Dr., Houston TX 77096. Larger images are best.

All of the cultivars registered in the Australian database are included in our database.

## **COMMITTEES AS A WHOLE (con't.)**

### **NOMENCLATURE (con't)**

There followed a lengthy general discussion with many questions and answers about the web site.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

### **CHAPTER PRESIDENTS' COMMITTEE**

Chairman Damon Veach called the meeting to order with every Chapter represented except Golby-Reasoner and Harry Goulding.

Archivist Barbara Hagan-Smith reminded the Committee that she needed to receive their Chapters' news letters.

There was a general discussion among the Chapter representatives about membership incentives and meeting programs.

The chairman reminded Chapter presidents to turn in their 2011 show dates to the newly elected 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

### **SHOW & JUDGING RULES COMMITTEE**

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon with all present except Pete Conrad, Randy Cox and Bobby Dupont.

The chairman first called upon Curt Sinclair who read a prepared statement that is made a part of these Minutes. This statement was in support of repealing the so-called Commerce Rule, that once a seedling is offered in commerce it is no longer a seedling. A motion was made and seconded that this "commerce rule" be repealed retroactive to January 1, 2010. After a lengthy discussion, the motion carried with one opposed.

Discussion centered on judges adhering to the rules of judging at least three shows a year, attending one seminar and not judging at one's own Chapter's show. With a shrinking number of judges and Chapters, these rules must sometimes be bent or waived. The Show Director is the ultimate arbiter in these matters.

## **COMMITTEES AS A WHOLE (con't.)**

### **SHOW AND JUDGING RULES COMMITTEE (con't.)**

A clarification of the experimental judging rule was requested. If a judge has a bloom or blooms in his/her exhibitor class in the final Gold Seal voting, he/she cannot vote in that classification. For example, if a judge has a bloom or blooms in the Collector Class, he/she may not vote in that class. If, however, he/she has a bloom or blooms in the Singles class, but none in the Doubles class, he/she may vote in the Collector Doubles class. The Miniature Classification is exempted from this rule. This experimental rule is in effect for the 2010 Show Season and will be revisited at the Fall Membership Meeting.

Miniature List: The following blooms were removed from the Miniature List: Charles Bechtel, Firestorm, Sunny Wind, Top Gun.

A motion was made and seconded that we not exclude any species of hibiscus from our Miniature List that qualify as a miniature. After discussion, the vote failed 4 against, 3 for.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned

A Judges' Seminar followed this meeting.

### **SEEDLING EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

Chairman Greg Graves called the meeting to order with all members present except Sam Andrews, Pete Conrad and Annelle Cox. These three members submitted their evaluation forms prior to the meeting and their numbers were included in the totals.

The evaluation forms were projected onto a screen so that everyone could follow the discussion. The chairman thanked the SEC Statistics Coordinator Jim Gedicke for his outstanding work on these forms.

A question from a Committee member, "What would happen if we threw out the high and low numbers on each seedling?" resulted in computer guru Marti Graves showing what would happen. The results were interesting; some gained and some lost. A discussion about this followed

The Class of 2007, which will produce the Seedling of the Year for 2011, was discussed. Dropped from this Class at the Fall Membership Meeting in November 2009 were Macho Man, Rebellious Lady and Ritzy Gal. This Class will need to be pared to four at the next meeting this November. After discussion, these seedlings were dropped from evaluation: Magic Potion, Mountain Air, Salty Dog, Neely Davis, Raspberry Treasure and Kiss of Death.

**COMMITTEES AS A WHOLE (con't.)**

**SEEDLING EVALUATION COMMITTEE (con't.)**

The Class of 2008 was discussed, but it is too early to make any decisions. The Committee members endured a harsh winter, and their plants are very slow to start growing.

At the November 2009 meeting, the Board approved the reimbursement to hybridizers/growers of reasonable shipping costs to get plants of the Best of Show Seedling winners to the SEC members.

The Class of 2009 is too new to have evaluation forms, but the chairman listed the blooms:

Anna Lyn Sport	Fortuna Fancy
Pride & Joy	Angelina Penn (dropped for lack of wood)
Queenie (dropped for lack of wood)	Purple Goddess
Moonlight Love	Ole'
Storm Front	Texas Wild
Snow on the Mountain	Elegant Tiara
Butterscotch Brownie	Queen of Dreams
Sporty Dragon	Dragon Flirt
Triple XXX	Grand Marquis
Black Rainbow	Pecan Cream

Because of Texas' unusually cold winter, hybridizer Don Florus requested an extension until November 2010 to get Butterscotch Brownie plants to the Committee. On motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the President's Committee approve this request.

On motion made and seconded, the Committee voted to recommend to the President's Committee that the scores be looked at with the high and low scores on each seedling thrown out before averaging the evaluation scores.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

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**SECOND PRESIDENT’S COMMITTEE MEETING, 4:30 P.M., JUNE 18, 2010**

President Eddie Griffith called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: President Eddie Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rita Hall, Secretary Pat Merritt, Chairman of Directors Kathy Grandoff, Treasurer Walter Bisselle, Executive Secretary Val Longson.

President Griffith moved that the Committee approve the Seedling Evaluation Committee’s recommendation that an extension until the November 2010 Membership Meeting be given to Don Florus’ Best of Show Seedling Butterscotch Brownie. The motion passed unanimously.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

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**SECOND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 5 P.M., JUNE 18, 2010**

Chairman of the Board Kathy Grandoff called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: President Eddie Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rita Hall, Secretary Pat Merritt, Chairman of Directors Kathy Grandoff, Treasurer Walter Bisselle, Executive Secretary Val Longson; Directors Bradley Christian, Cindy Erndt, Paul Felsberg, Fred Roush, Joyce Comingore, Ed Flory, Wanda Schmoyer; Chapter Presidents' Coordinator Damon Veach. Absent: Immediate Past National President Sam Andrews.

On motion made and seconded, the Board ratified the President's Committee's approval of the Seedling Evaluation Committee's recommendation to grant an extension until November 2010 for distribution of plants of Butterscotch Brownie to SEC members. The motion carried with one opposed.

On motion made and seconded, the Board voted to approve Publications Committee Chairman Paul Felsberg's recommendation that the AHS purchase 500 more copies of the DVD Catalogue, with a budget not to exceed \$800. The motion unanimously carried.

The Seedling Evaluation Committee's request to eliminate the high and low scores for each seedling before averaging the scores was tabled until the November 2010 Membership Meeting.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

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### **FIRST GENERAL SESSION, 9 A.M., JUNE 19, 2010**

President Eddie Griffith welcomed everyone to the First General session of the 2010 Convention and reminded us that this is our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year. He asked Rita Hall to deliver the Invocation and Wally Neef to lead the Salute to the Flag.

The Minutes of the Fall Membership Meeting held at the Hilton Garden Inn, Brandon FL, November 13 – 15, 2009, were approved as written and posted on the AHS web site.

Committee meetings are conducted as Committees as a Whole, and their Minutes are included herein and are not repeated in this section.

#### **President's Report: Eddie Griffith**

President Griffith recapped the major issues from the various committee meetings held on Friday for those members who were not in attendance.

#### **The Seed Pod: Rita Hall**

Thank you for the cards and flowers sent during my recent illness. They were very much appreciated.

Send your 2011 Show dates to the new 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president.

Director Wanda Schmoyer has agreed to solicit advertisers for The Seed Pod to help pay the \$18,000 cost of four issues each year.

Please consider writing an article or contributing pictures. Thanks to those who work on every issue: Katie McClain for mailing, Pat Merritt for proofing, and the many who contribute articles.

We need someone to take on the Members-At-Large column written for many years by Sam Andrews. He has been too busy to write this for the past several issues.

#### **The Seed Bank: Bob Carran, Chairman (Pat Merritt representing)**

Seeds sent this period: 276 (down 85%)

Seed requests: 28 (23 foreign requests)

During this period there were many hybridizers throughout the world who began selling their seeds. Buyers were able to purchase seeds from sellers in Texas, Maryland, Tahiti (2), and from an auction held a couple of times a year by a cyber hibiscus group.

Wood is also being sold. All of this has drastically curtailed the number of requests from the Seed Bank.

Marti and Greg Graves contributed 314 seeds to the Seed Bank this weekend.

#### **New Business**

A request was made that the Show Judges' Manual and the Show Directors' Manual be posted on the AHS web site.

**FIRST GENERAL SESSION (con't.)**

A motion to make permanent the experimental rule of judges not voting during final Gold Seal judging in classifications where they had blooms in competition was referred to the Show and Judging Rules Committee for consideration at the November meeting.

**Election Results: Carolyn Cormier-Stoute, National Nominating Committee Co-Chair**

President	Don Mixon
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Fred Roush
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	Deb Spencer
Directors	CJ Melebeck
	Damon Veach
	Mary Bridges
	Mario Francis

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

**AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY**

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**SPECIAL PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE MEETING, 11 A.M., JUNE 19, 2010**

President Eddie Griffith called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: President Eddie Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rita Hall, Secretary Pat Merritt, Chairman of Directors Kathy Grandoff, Treasurer Walter Bisselle, Executive Secretary Val Longson.

The Nomenclature Committee requested funding for a domain name, which will be about \$20 per year, and \$1,000 for the graphics work to complete the database web site. On motion made and seconded, the Committee unanimously approved sending this request to the Board.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

## AMERICAN HIBISCUS SOCIETY

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### **SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 11:15 A.M., JUNE 19, 2010**

Chairman of the Board Kathy Grandoff called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Pat Merritt called the roll. Present: President Eddie Griffith, 1<sup>st</sup> VP Don Mixon, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP Rita Hall, Secretary Pat Merritt, Chairman of Directors Kathy Grandoff, Treasurer Walter Bisselle, Executive Secretary Val Longson; Directors Bradley Christian, Cindy Erndt, Paul Felsberg, Fred Roush, Joyce Comingore, Ed Flory, Wanda Schmoyer; Chapter Presidents' Coordinator Damon Veach. Absent: Immediate Past National President Sam Andrews.

On motion made and seconded, the Board unanimously approved the President's Committee's recommendation to fund the stated needs of the Nomenclature Committee.

St. Thomas Chapter's Mario Francis requested permission from the Board to pursue the possibility of holding the 2012 Convention in the Virgin Islands. Mr. Francis will bring a proposal to the 2011 Convention for the Board's consideration.

On motion made and seconded the Board unanimously voted to pursue holding the 2011 Convention in the Houston TX area.

The 2010 Fall Membership Meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Brandon FL, a suburb of Tampa.

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

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### SECOND GENERAL SESSION, 9 A.M., JUNE 20, 2010

President Eddie Griffith welcomed everyone to the Second General Session, and asked Katie McClain to deliver the Invocation and Wally Neef to lead the Salute to the Flag.

The president wished a happy Father's Day to the fathers present, touched briefly on the salient votes at the meetings, and called for Chapter reports.

#### **Michael Bernard Acadiana: Sandra Theall, President (Cindy Erndt representing)**

Our 2010 Hibiscus season started on a chilly note. South Louisiana had a brutal winter, causing us to abandon our usual March and April agendas and take a different approach to spur enthusiasm for new members. We offered tiny seedlings to interested members who would then participate in a seedling growth contest. At each month's meeting the seedlings' growth was evaluated and prizes awarded and stars (or tombstones) were placed on a growth chart. We participated in the Festival des Fleurs in May, and our annual show was June 6. We made a little money and, more importantly, added some new hibiscus enthusiasts

#### **Central Florida: Fred Fallman, President (Gary Mathews representing)**

We have had an excellent year so far. We were saddened by the loss of Priscilla Burns, our Chapter secretary who was involved in all Chapter events. Acting Secretary Sherryl Mathews will take the job permanently. The Mathews' family attended the 2009 Convention in Baton Rouge and this year's Convention Orlando. We also now have four hibiscus judges in our Chapter. Our meeting programs have included demonstrations on grafting, rooting cuttings, and Don & Kathy from Unbelievable Hibiscus presented a program on "How to Grow Hibiscus" and brought with them a great selection of plants to buy. Our meetings are held the second Sunday of the month at beautiful Leu Gardens, and our refreshments are supplied by Fred and Jane Fallman. Come to our meetings and enjoy Jane's pecan-topped brownies!

#### **British Virgin Islands: Lavern Thomas, President (Mario Francis representing)**

The newly reinstated Chapter has 21 registered members and is planning its first show in November 2010.

#### **Conrad Sunrise: Maureen Buono, President**

Our Chapter is doing very well. We meet all year around. In April and November we have auctions to raise operational funds. Our plant sales are helped more by a cold winter than a hurricane.

#### **Golby-Reasoner: Dave Flanders, President (Don Mixon representing)**

Our 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Show was another success. The winter freezes reduced our bloom count, but the attendance was up due to a new publicity plan and its new emphasis put forth by Chapter members personally publicizing the show. A new addition to the show, that of four 15-

## **SECOND GENERAL SESSION (con't.)**

minute mini-presentations at 20-minute intervals, was a huge success and delighted our guests. Membership continues to be our number one challenge. We were able to get only one new member this year, and lost several due to relocation and death. We now have 45 members, and Chapter life and health are good. Our newsletter Petal Power continues to provide an excellent resource and news source for our members. Receipt of newsletters from other Chapters is much appreciated. Gayler Boettcher will be our new president for the coming year.

### **Gulf Coast: Wally Neef, President**

We finally turned a profit on our Annual Show by cutting down on expenses and selling more plants. Membership is down to about 30 members due to age, deaths and the economy. Venice is a small town populated by retirees on limited incomes.

### **Harry Goulding: Jerry Smyth, President (Jim Bridges, representing)**

Membership is steady at 36, and we are always looking for new members at each show. The fall 2009 show was a great success with about 500 blooms. The Mother's Day show was also successful, with 441 blooms. We are working at both the spring and fall Home and Garden Shows in Punta Gorda. Our fall 2010 show is October 24<sup>th</sup>, and everyone is invited to bring all the blooms you have!

### **James E. Hendry: Wanda Schmoyer, President**

Our year was very successful, finishing with 50 memberships and 83 members. We sold over 750 plants at our June show and gained six new members. Publicity works! We lost four members this year and had a memorial table at our show with their pictures and candles. We have three new Novice Judges in our Chapter! We got great exposure for tropical hibiscus by participating in the Home and Garden show and by hosting two homes for the Garden Council at Christmas. We also participated in the Strolling Flower Show with displays and won another ribbon. Please visit our web site [www.hendrychapterahs.com](http://www.hendrychapterahs.com)

### **Lone Star: Deb Spencer, President**

We signed up 16 new memberships at our June show bringing our memberships to 85. We sponsored two hibiscus shows and plant sales, the first one barely making a profit and the second one, with great publicity, very successful. We sold every plant available and could have sold double that. Our biggest problem this year was plant availability. With Space City having three shows, each one just before our two shows, the number of plants available was diminished. We will take steps to remedy that next year.

### **Space City: Cindy Erndt, President**

We had our most successful year in the Chapter's 16-year history, selling a total of 2,842 plants at three shows. The harsh winter of 2009-2010 created a huge market for tropical hibiscus. Our great publicity turned out record crowds for our shows. We finished the year with 62 memberships, a real growth spurt over the last three years.

## **SECOND GENERAL SESSION (con't.)**

### **St. Croix: Marsha Shuman, President (Bradley Christian representing)**

This year has seen a substantial growth in our membership. Thanks to the efforts of a small core group, we have maintained quality programs and shows. Our meetings included a slide show of hybrid blooms, workshops on starting rootstock, potting hibiscus, grafting and a sick plant clinic. Our January show had a large variety of flowers entered and a large attendance. Our second show was at the Botanical Gardens in conjunction with their show and was also a great success. We purchased over 200 plants that were sold at the local Agricultural Fair and at our January show. We could have sold more if they had been available. In order to stimulate interest in exhibiting, we added a Hobbyist Class to our second show this year. We will do a better job of letting the community know about this class for next season. We are putting together job descriptions for each of the major events in the Chapter to make it easier to recruit broader participation and simplify the process for new members to take over duties too long done by older members.

### **St. Thomas: Mario Francis, President**

We have 42 members and one of them, Cheryl Payne, is also here at the Convention. Our show on February 21<sup>st</sup> was short on bloom count, but we are rising in other areas.

### **Sunset: Don Mixon, President**

We had a great year and great show. We sold the most plants due to the cold weather. We had a grafting party and we drew a few visitors from the garden section of the newspaper, thanks to Tom Miller's efforts.

### **Tampa's Unbelievable: Don Mixon, President**

The State Fair came again in February. We had a small show due to cold weather, but a great show with lovely blooms. We had a few meetings and a small turnout. Our Chapter had a grafting party and had a good turn out. We hosted a party after the fall membership meeting held in Brandon, and hosted a Christmas party with a large turn out.

### **2012 Convention**

Mario Francis, St. Thomas USVI Chapter, addressed the session. Plans are being developed to hold the 2012 Convention in the Virgin Islands, perhaps on St. Thomas or St. Croix. We are looking into activities such as Island Tours, the three S's...Sun, Sand and Sea.

### **Installation of Officers**

Past AHS President Zelma Neef installed the new officers.

### **Awards**

**BVI Chapter Reinstatement: Rita Hall**

**President's Award of Achievement: Eddie Griffith to Mario Francis**

**Life Membership presented to Nola and Carlos Reynolds by Eddie Griffith**

**SECOND GENERAL SESSION (con't.)**

**Life Membership presented to outgoing president Eddie Griffith by incoming president Don Mixon.**

**Executive Secretary's Award to Joyce Melebeck by Val Longson.**

**Treasurer's Award to Roland Gaudet by Walter Bisselle.**

With no further business, on motion made and seconded, the 2010 Convention was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia B. Merritt  
Recording Secretary

**National Awards Presentation, June 19, 2010**  
**Awarded for Show Season 2009**

Harry Gouilding Grafting Award to Charles Black, Hidden Valley Hibiscus, California.

Norman and Beverly Brubaker Award for the Judges' Favorite Bloom to SWEET PINK, Bobby Dupont/Fr. Bob Gerlich, hybridizers.

Norman Reasoner Award for the most Amateur Exhibitors to the Michael Bernard Acadiana Chapter, Lafayette LA.

A. B. Morrison Award to the hybridizer with the most Best of Show Seedling winners to Nola & Carlos Reynolds, Lake Harbor FL.

**Gold Seal Sweepstakes**

Amateur – Florida	Nancy Kopp, James Hendry Chapter
TX/LA	Alicia Garza, unaffiliated
VI	Wayne McCarthy, St. Croix Chapter

Collector – Florida	Karla & Jerry Holmes, MAL
TX/LA	Carolyn McCarroll, New Orleans Chapter
VI	Marsha Schuman, St. Croix Chapter

Open Col. – Florida	Nola & Carlos Reynolds, Conrad Sunrise Chapter
TX/LA	Lynn & Sam Andrews, MAL
VI	Clement & Johanny Magras, St. Thomas Chapter

Commercial – Florida	Unbelievable Hibiscus, Sunset & Tampa Chapters
TX/LA	Ann & Dave Mitchell, Lone Star Chapter
VI	Errol Chichester, St. Croix Chapter

Sam Buser Traveling Trophy for the 2009 Seedling of the Year, given in memory of Jack McClain

**SWEET PINK**, hybridizers Bobby Dupont/Fr. Bob Gerlich

Second Place: Early Times, Nola & Carlos Reynolds

Third Place: Voodoo Magic, Dupont/Gerlich

Fourth Place: Yoda, Susan & Barry Schlueter