



# Mike Bernard Acadiana Chapter American Hibiscus Society



**Join us Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm  
at the Ira Nelson Horticultural Center  
to kick off our 2014 Hibiscus Season**



Are you ready for Spring?? With the succession of cold blasts we have and are experiencing this year, I am more than ready for spring to arrive before the cold and the "critters" totally decimate my hibiscus collection. Luckily, we can once again count on Dupont Nursery to give us a taste of spring with a visit to their greenhouses in Plaquemine. It is going to be a busy year for our chapter with a 2-day Festival des Fleurs, our annual show, and the 2014 National Convention. It will be important that we ALL work together this year to make these events successful. Look forward to seeing you next Tuesday! Ann



**It is time for the much anticipated..... TRIP TO DUPONT NURSERY  
Saturday, February 15th**

The annual visit to Dupont Nursery has been set for Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in order to accommodate members who are engaged in Mardi Gras activities and to be able to visit the nursery before too many plants are sent out to the local nurseries. Participants are asked to park in the nursery parking lot and check in at the office immediately. With all three Louisiana Chapters being invited, it is important that we are able to provide a fairly accurate head count to permit the Duponts to better plan for lunch. Please let Ann or Buddy know if you are planning to stay for lunch.

Ann - [337-781-4992-ann@acadianahibiscus.com](mailto:337-781-4992-ann@acadianahibiscus.com)  
Buddy - [337-278-0946-buddy@shortfinancialgroup.com](mailto:337-278-0946-buddy@shortfinancialgroup.com)

**Visiting Etiquette:** As the Dupont Nursery has become an important source of new hibiscus cultivars, it has had to exercise greater precaution in safeguarding its new seedlings. In the past, some seedlings have been taken that were not yet released for sale. Should the cultivar be one that they intend to patent, its premature sale could complicate or even jeopardize the process. So it is absolutely essential that we purchase only those plants that have been released for sale. Being good guests is not only good manners, but our cooperation will determine whether we will be welcome at the nursery in the future. Mr. Robert Dupont III, Bobby's grandson, sent out an email year before last, explaining the conditions of our visit. The same procedure will hold for this year's trip as well. **Please follow his directions in all particulars.**

*“All visitors must check in at the front office and all cars must be parked in the office parking lot. Only plants with designated signs will be allowed to be purchased. All plants will be placed on carts and brought to the check out area in the shipping warehouse where they will be inspected before they are allowed to be loaded into vehicles. We are asking everyone kindly not to move plants from one area to another while shopping. If someone picks out a plant and decides it is not one they wish to buy, it must be returned to the exact location from which it was taken. Anyone caught with a plant taken from an area other than the designated benches will be asked to leave the premises. Only hibiscus will be allowed to be purchased and all other plants in the nursery are off limits. Browsing is acceptable but we ask that no one bring plants other than hibiscus to the check out area. Your 20% discount applies and lunch will be served. Abiding by these rules and the outcome of this sale will determine future visits.”*

**DIRECTIONS:** Take I-10 east to Baton Rouge. Take the exit to Plaquemine (LA 1), follow the road into Plaquemine to the intersection of LA 1 and Hwy 75 (same as Bellevue Drive). There is a McDonalds on the corner. Take a right on to Hwy 75 and proceed to the end of the road (approximately 7 miles). You will come to a stop sign and the bayou will be directly in front of you, Jack Miller’s store is to your right. At the stop sign turn left and proceed for about a mile and a quarter. On the left side of the road is a sign for **“Dupont Nursery Home of Cajun Color.”** Turn onto the gravel road and proceed until you see the greenhouses.

Anyone desiring to ride together will assemble in the parking lot of Target at the I-10/ Louisiana Ave. Exit. Departure is 8:30 AM sharp. Be early. Please let us know you are coming.....

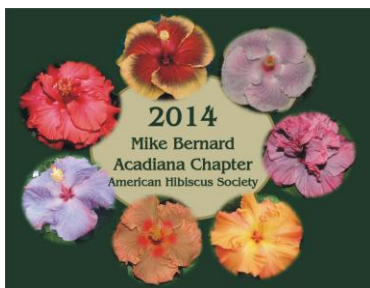
**Plants for Sale:** The nursery normally provides a list of available cultivars a few days before the visit which will be forwarded by email. Some of the plants are available only in gallons, but many are also planted in 3 gallon (10”) pots and hanging baskets. Since we have been having cold weather, most likely the nursery will not have shipped many plants before our visit. So we really will have first choice, and by mid-February the nursery should be full of blooming plants.

You can pay for your plants with a **personal check, cash** or **CREDIT CARD**.



## 2014 Calendar

We only heard from a couple of people with the status of their calendar sales. Please be prepared to turn in the money or calendars at Tuesday’s meeting. I have about 10 left in my possession if you need a few more to sell.



**Happy Birthday!!**



Inez Barras  
Martha Dousay  
Anita Petitjean  
Ted Bourque



## Upcoming Events

**MBAC Chapter Meeting – February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Dupont Nursery Visit – February 15<sup>th</sup>**

**MBAC Chapter Meeting – March 11<sup>th</sup>**

**LSU Spring Garden Show –**

**March 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>**

**MBAC Chapter Meeting – April 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Festival des Fleurs – April 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>**

**1<sup>st</sup> Space City Hibiscus Show – April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Red Stick Hibiscus Show – May 4<sup>th</sup>**

**MBAC Chapter Meeting – May 6<sup>th</sup>**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Space City Hibiscus Show – May 10<sup>th</sup>**

**MBAC Show Setup – May 17<sup>th</sup>**

**MBAC Hibiscus Show – May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**NOLA Hibiscus Show – May 25<sup>th</sup>**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Space City Hibiscus Show – June 1<sup>st</sup>**

**MBAC Chapter Meeting – June 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Lone Star Hibiscus Show – June 8<sup>th</sup>**

**AHS National Convention –**

**June 19<sup>th</sup>-June 22<sup>nd</sup>**



## For your viewing pleasure from Jennie



*Dark Continent*



*Romantique & Shelly Lorraine*



*Moondance*



### MBAC Officers

President ~ Ann Peltier ~ 337-781-4992 ~ [ann@acadianahibiscus.com](mailto:ann@acadianahibiscus.com)

Vice President ~ Jennie Marcantel ~ 337-824-5602 ~ [bluesbabyj@hotmail.com](mailto:bluesbabyj@hotmail.com)

Secretary ~ Jay Ruffin ~ 337-258-8719 ~ [jbruffin@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbruffin@bellsouth.net)

Treasurer ~ Buddy Short ~ 337-278-0946 ~ [buddy@shortfinancialgroup.com](mailto:buddy@shortfinancialgroup.com)