

# SCURF

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Bromeliad Lover,



So how many of you are in your yard by 6am and back in the house by 10am? Man, has it been hot!

Well, I would like to start off by thanking Dr. Terri Bert for a really interesting program last month and a lot of great plants priced right!

This month the speaker will be David McLean, his program being "User Friendly Bromeliads". He will also be bringing with him some of his goodies from his nursery to sell. Not to worry, the members sale table will still be open. David, as most of you know him, always is a lot of fun and brings with him tons of info so don't miss this meeting!

Next, info on the library – last month I passed around a survey asking you for your opinion on donating our books to the Helen B. Hoffman Library. Some of you may or may not know that we do have a collection of books that have not been readily available to you, our members. These books have been shuffled around from garage to garage and home to home because, unfortunately, we do not have a situation where books can be kept at our meeting place. We have done the best we can by bringing books and informing you in the Scurf of which books would be brought to the meetings but it still is not the best scenario.

So, with your responses and much discussion about this topic at the last board meeting, the board voted that we donate the books - keeping the 4 most popular with our librarian, Patty Barnes, to bring to the meetings.

The Helen B. Hoffman Library located at 501 North Fig Tree Lane in Plantation is a wonderful quaint library with the largest garden section around town.

This is very important "if you are a current member" of BSBC you will receive a library card so that you may check out Bromeliad books for FREE. If you are a NON – resident of Plantation and wish to check out other books besides bromeliad books you must get a library card for \$20.00 per yr.

All of our journals are already on the shelves and in each book is a beautiful sticker indicating that it was donated from us along with an 8x10 laminated information card with our logo and all our meeting information. Marcia David, our membership chair, is a member of the "Friends of the Library" and will be able to keep a watchful eye on the books. I would like to thank Patty Barnes for all the leg work, and helping our society get more connected with the community. Hopefully, with this outreach we will be able to grow the interest of bromeliads even more.

See you at the meeting – stay COOL!  
Colleen

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

P.O. BOX 17272

PLANTATION FL. 33312



2010/2011 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Editor	Marcia David	954-321-9229
Website Editor	Matt Hendrix	unlisted
Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229

Our meetings generally offer a speaker on timely and noteworthy topics, member plant sales, a plant raffle, special holiday plant auction, diagnosis of disease and pest problems. We also offer a Country Store with selected bromeliads and gardening supplies. We meet on the Third Monday of each month except when it falls on a holiday and then we meet on the Fourth Monday at 6:30 p.m.



The Bromeliad Society of Broward County is a member of, and supports:

**The Bromeliad Society International**

<http://bsi.org>

The Bromeliad Society of Broward County is a member of, and supports:

**The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies**

<http://fcbs.org>

Our clubs' reps are: Dr. Jose and Sara Donayre

The Bromeliad Society of Broward County is a Member of, and supports:

**The Cryptanthus Society**

<http://www.iinet.net.au/-scrozier/Culture.html>



## JUNE MEETING

Monday, June 21, 2010

Plant Viewing at 6:30 PM

Meeting begins promptly at 7:00 PM

Where: Jim Ward Community Center

301 NW 46th Ave. (Park East Drive)

Plantation, Fl. 33317

PLEASE BRING YOUR BLOOMING PLANTS FOR THE SHOW AND TELL TABLE

The Sales Table will be OPEN

The Raffle Table will be OPEN

Our Speaker This Month

Will be

**DAVID McLEAN**

speaking on

**“USER FRIENDLY BROMELIAD”**

David McLean has been active in Broward's landscape and garden community for decades.

The new Trinity Churchside Gardens is run by David McLean (Professor of Horticulture at Broward Community College and Curator of Nova Universities Medicinal Garden) and is supported by Nova University, BCC, and Trinity Lutheran Church. The nursery offers many native plants, and other colorful beauties. It's where you go if you want a medicinal plant from the Caribbean or a particular variety of croton (there are hundreds). It's also the kind of place where rare natives and exotic plants are tucked in out-of-the-way corners. Trinity Churchside Garden -- David's first venture into the retail market -- is only open on Saturdays from 10-4, and Sundays from 1-4. It is located at 24 SW 10th Street, Fort Lauderdale, 954-768-0423.

## HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAY

To

JoAnn Heyer, Ken Marks,  
Tammy Marks, Doug Molitor, Ben Paschal,  
Kevin Killilea, Ann Schandelmayer,  
Ron Wiringer William Wurdack



**A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU ALL!**



If we missed your birthday or have you listed in the wrong month please correct me.

(Please note: for some couples we have only one birthday!)

June Birthdays - please bring a contribution to the Refreshment table for June.

Contribute refreshments in your month and get a **free raffle ticket** for a special drawing!

### **In Memoriam**

**It is with great sadness for me to tell you  
Anne Kauffman passed late Friday night  
June 11, 2010.**

**She was one of our Honorary members,  
a bromeliad judge and famous for her  
Tillandsia's  
She will be missed.**

#### "Diaper Your Plants"

Please "diaper" your plants that you bring in by using a newspaper sleeve or a plastic bag to cover the bottom of the plant.

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

July 26-31 World Conference in New Orleans



Photo's 1, 2, 3 are *Alcantarea imperialis*

Photo 4 is a *Giant Swallowtail* on a *phaloenopsis*.

Compliments of Tim and Colleen Hendix

## CLONE PRESERVATION PROJECT update - May 2010

Alan Herndon

*Aechmea fosteriana* was first collected by Mulford and Racine Foster during their 1939 trip to Brazil (detailed in their book *Brazil - Orchid of the Tropics*). It is a tubular plant with wide, strap shaped leaves that are up to 2 feet long. The leaf surface has irregularly shaped, dark, usually incomplete cross bands with a matte green ground color. The inflorescence is composed of spreading branches. Flowers are separated from each other. In other words, it has a totally different appearance from *Aechmea orlandiana*. *Aechmea fosteriana* var. *rupicola* is similar in overall appearance to typical *fosteriana*, but has a shiny green leaf surface without any crossbands.

I currently have 4 different collections of typical *Aechmea fosteriana*. These represent at least 3 separate clones. The one I have had the longest came from the collection of aroid specialist Monroe Birdsey in the mid 1970's. It is characterized by a dark green ground color and drooping leaf tips. I do not know what the original source was. Monroe Birdsey did some collecting in Brazil, and may have brought back the plant himself. Two of the collections, one from Curt Dowling (through Moyna Price) and the other from Ralph Davis (through Eloise Beach) are similar in appearance and may represent the same clone. The green color on the leaves of these plants is lighter than found in the Birdsey clone, and the leaf tips have less tendency to droop. The other clearly different clone was obtained from Elton Leme by John Anderson (I received it through the good graces of Karl Green). In this clone, the cross bands are straighter in appearance, and more continuous, than in the other clones. This gives the clone a darker appearance overall.

Selby Botanical Gardens living collection contains a plant reported to be a descendent of the type clone from Foster's collection (Sel 1979-1767). I do need to add a note of caution concerning this plant. According to the Smith and Downs Monograph, Foster made two collections of the species from the same site approximately a year apart. Only the descendants of the 1939 collection could be considered descendants of the type clone, since a specimen made from this collection was originally designated the holotype (Foster 177). If the Selby plant is a descendent of the 1940 collection (represented by the specimen Foster878), it must be treated as an early collection without any connection to the type. This holds true even if Foster was able to collect plants from the same vegetative clone in both years. In either case, this is a very important clone to preserve in cultivation. It is possible that evidence bearing on the relationship between the two collections is awaiting discovery in the Foster archive at the University of Central Florida.

*Aechmea gurkeniana* and *Aechmea milsteiniana* are similar in vegetative appearance to *Aechmea fosteriana*. I have recently had the opportunity to compare the flowers of *Aechmea gurkeniana* and *Aechmea milsteiniana* with those from *Aechmea fosteriana* and *Aechmea orlandiana* and found all shared the same relationship between the petals and stamens. Other potential members of the *orlandiana-fosteriana* complex, such as *Aechmea bambusoides* and the recently described *Aechmea atrovittata* have not been available for study yet. *Aechmea correia-araujo* is another potential member of the complex that I have not studied in detail.

No species in this complex appears to be self-fertile, much less to set seed without pollination. You should assume that at least two clones will be needed to produce viable seeds for any of the species. However, it is quite easy to cross *Aechmea orlandiana* and *Aechmea fosteriana* with each other and with other *Aechmea* species (consider the number of reported *Aechmea orlandiana* hybrids). Of course, if you have humming birds around (they tend to be around when plants of this complex are in bloom), there is always a quick little beak ready to cross-pollinate any two open flowers that provide a sip of nectar. The fruits turn blue when seeds mature inside. If you find these seed-filled fruits, you can try your hand at growing some seedlings. These will all be hybrids, of course, and it is unlikely that any will be worth propagating, but it could be interesting to spend some time trying to figure out what the unknown pollen parent might be.

I need to make some comments on *Aechmea* 'Bert', the hybrid between *Aechmea fosteriana* and *Aechmea orlandiana*. I have some plants that probably came from Foster's original cross (although this is hard to prove given the uncertain distribution of the Frase hybrids); they basically do not have any of the orange colors present in the leaves of *Aechmea orlandiana*. Plants currently for sale as 'Bert' are much more colorful, and have better form, than these old clones. These newer clones could be remakes of the original cross, or the result of more complex crosses within the complex. Since these clones are just as large as the original, they are clearly not *Aechmea* 'Little Bert'. I don't know what *Aechmea* 'Viktor' looks like, so, in theory, this name could apply. However, since no separate cultivar names are attached to these newer clones, we will probably have to come up with new, artificial names (think Clone 1, Clone 2 ...) to distinguish them. Unfortunately, this also means we will probably never be able to decipher their history.

The variegated form of *Aechmea* 'Bert', although readily available, has apparently never been given a cultivar name. It is apparently unique in the way the variegation skips generations. Offsets of variegated plants frequently lose all trace of variegation, but offsets from these plants also frequently appear with fully developed variegation. This trait means you don't want to discard plants that have lost variegation. It also suggests that you should grow this plant in a clump in order to maintain some variegated rosettes at all times.

As always, if you have any information to add concerning plants in this complex, please let me know. In particular, information concerning older clones still in cultivation or wild-collected plants from some of the many BSI members who collected in Brazil over the years would be welcome.



**Sunshine Ranches**  
 BROMELIA, EXOTIC PLANTS  
 Josefa Leon  
 14601 Sheridan Street  
 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33330  
 Broward: 954-434-4148  
 Cel: 954-249-2205



**BUD'S BROMELIADS**

**BUD HENDRIX**  
 824 N. BEL AIR DRIVE  
 PLANTATION, FL 33317  
 954-583-8636

**RENT THIS SPACE**

Business card size    \$10.00  
 1/2 Page                    20.00  
 Full Page                    30.00

**Good Gift Suggestion**

Purchase a membership to the Bromeliad Society of Broward County for a friend or a relative.



**BSBC Country Store**

The Country Store has the following items for sale at great prices!

ITEM	PRICE
Five and Six inch pots	5 pots for \$1.00
Plant Name Sticks	50 sticks for \$1.00

Other supplies may be purchased direct from:

Universal Enterprises Supply Co.

2171 Blount Rd.

Pompano Beach, Fl. 33069

954-979-0600 or 1-800-432-3009

Not open Saturdays or Sundays

**LOCATION**

**Directions from I-95**

Exit onto Copans Rd. West (exit #38), drive two miles west; turn left at the light for Blount Rd; as you're heading south, stay in your far right lane; it is actually a turning lane; stay in it, then make a right hand turn as it ends; pass the Coca-Cola plant and follow the road to the end.

**Directions from the Turnpike**

Exit at Pompano Beach (exit #67) - Coconut Creek Pkwy @ Martin Luther King Blvd. After the toll booth make a left at the light onto Martin Luther King Blvd., then make an immediate left turn; you'll be heading north parallel to the Turnpike; go .08 of a mile; turn left when you see our sign - we share the road with a Coca-Cola plant; they are at the end of the road.



**T & C Tropicals**

Specializing in Bromeliads

Landscape & Interiors

21 Holly Lane

Plantation, FL 33317

954-530-0076 / 954-931-1711

Tim & Colleen Hendrix

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday Month \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #'s Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to serve on a committee or otherwise assist? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

Permanent Name Tag ? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_ Paid\_\_\_

Membership Dues are:

\$20.00 per year for individuals.

\$25.00 per year for more than one member at the same address.

Please make your check payable to:

Bromeliad Society of Broward County (BSBC) and mail to:

Tami Newett, Treasurer

P.O. Box 17272

Plantation, Fl. 33318

Do you wish to apply for membership to Bromeliad Society International (BSI)

Cost is \$40.00 for a single or dual one year membership. ([www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org))

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

We meet at 6:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of the month, except January and December.

January and December dates will be announced in the SCURF.

at the

Jim Ward Community Center

301 NW 46th Ave.

Plantation, Fl. 33317

954-585-2353