

# Scurf

## The Bromeliad Society of Broward County



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was truly impressed with our outstanding Raffle table in July. Sixty or more potted plants were won by at least fifty card holders in twenty minutes. I'm sure it's an all time record handled efficiently by Richard Sedlak and Larry Davis. The Raffle table; the Sales table and the Show and Tell table will all be open in August. This would be the month to bring in problem plants or identification questions. I am going to urge anyone who attended Stan McMillan's West Palm Beach sale to bring in their treasures - but only the Bromeliads please. Remember also to collect your ticket for the drawing for the Show and Tell table from Richard.

#### INDOOR PICNIC - AUGUST 17th

Hope to see everyone at the indoor picnic August 17th at 6:30 P.M. Harriett Abo is the Co-ordinator. Call her at 954-434-8466 if you have not signed up. There is no charge for members. There will be a \$5.00 charge for guests and fun for all!

#### ANNUAL AUCTION - SEPTEMBER 21st

Our annual auction will be held at 6:30P.M. We urge all interested in Bromeliads to attend; not only to increase your collection but just to see such a wide variety at one location is an exciting experience. We would ask that all that come bring five plants each. Those who can share at least five nice plants will be rewarded with a 10% discount on your Christmas Luncheon (\$3.00) ticket at the Plantation Preserve. The date is December 12th. Time is 11:30. See Caroline Plechac for reservations. Ticket price is \$30.00.

#### TILLANDSIA'S - OCTOBER 19th - - PAUL ISLEY III

We have a special program on October 19 presented by Paul Isley of Los Angeles, CA. Paul is a long time grower and collector of Tillandsias. He has 30 employees who for the past seventeen years have helped raise these Tillandsias from seed to ship world wide. He will have a box of these available to us before and after our October meeting. The Isley book on Tillandsias has been widely acclaimed. It is now out of print and a new book is at the printer and should be available in October. The title of the program is the NEWEST AND GREATEST IN TILLANDSIAS. Do not miss this world class speaker who is coming to speak in Florida for the first time. Be sure to be there by 6:30 P.M.

#### BOARD MEETING

The board meeting will be held at 7 P.M. Please be there or call to be excused. We are still looking for librarians for our outstanding collection of books . One book case would take care of it.

Maureen

## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

P.O. BOX 17272  
PLANTATION, FL. 33312

### 2009/2010 Officers and Directors

President	Maureen Frazel	954-474-1349
Vice President	Caroline Plechac	954-927-0015
Recording Secretary	Richard Sedlak	954-296-5633
Corresponding Secretary	Liz Killilea	954-693-3515
Treasurer	Tami Newett	954-316-8902
<b>Directors:</b>		
3 year	Marcia David	954-321-9229
2 year	Larry Davis	954-434-8466
1 year	George Henderson	954-630-8635
Immediate Past President	Colleen Hendrix	954-530-0076
Editor	Marcia David	954-321-9229
Membership Chairman	Marcia David	954-321-9229
Photographers	Tim Hendrix	954-530-0076
	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 auctions, diagnosis of disease and pest problems. We also offer a Country Store with selected bromeliad and gardening supplies.

We meet the third Monday of every month (except January)

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>

AUGUST MEETING:

Monday, August 17, 2009

Annual Picnic

Members - free

Non- paying members and Guests - \$5.00 donation

Bring a dish to share.

Meat entree will be furnished by the club.

Picnic begins at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Jim Ward Community Center

301 NW 46th Ave. (Park East Drive)

Plantation, Fl. 33317

Call Harriet Abo (954-434-8466) if you plan to attend and bring food for the potluck.

There will also be a silent auction of some of Stan McMillans' books and distribution of plants from various sources. You won't want to miss our picnic which begins at 6:30 P.M.

\*\*\*\*\* The Member Sales Table will be OPEN \*\*\*\*\*

We will have our Raffle Table in August

No Raffle Table in September due to the Auction

Please note:

Your editor will be on vacation from August 20th - September 20th.

**THERE WILL NOT BE A SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF THE SCURF**

This issue contains information regarding August and September

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Monday, September 21, 2009

BSBC ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION

We ask each member to bring at least 5 beautiful plants or bromeliad related items to be auctioned off. Art work, decorative pots, books, household items such as napkins or coasters with pineapples on them will also be accepted .

This is a fund raiser for the club so we ask that everyone participates.

Tell your friends!!!!

This is a great time to collect great plants and get into a bidding frenzy!!!!

BONUS

Bring in five (5) plants or bromeliad related items and receive 10% (\$3.00) off the cost of your ticket to the Christmas Luncheon held on Saturday, Dec 12th at 11A.M. at the Plantation Preserve.

(More Christmas Luncheon information in October)

Call Caroline Plechac (954-927-0015) for reservations.

Happy AUGUST Birthdays

to

Kevin Gale Norman, Billie Grover, Jamie Hawkins  
 Colleen Hendrix, Marie Howard Deborah Johnson  
 Steve Kalogerakis, James Kane, Lauren Esteban  
 Harry Sperling

Happy September Birthdays

to

Gerry Bohning, Linda Stoddard, Martha Gregory  
 Susan Gutman, Caroline Plechac, Kenny Seesahai  
 W. Tom Shirley, Janice Stencel, Bill Frazel

August birthdays - please bring a contribution to the Refreshment Table for September.

Contribute to the refreshment table in your month and get a **free** raffle ticket for a special drawing.

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

**JUDGE'S SCHOOL**

An opportunity is coming your way to attend a BSI accredited school which will not be given again for at least 5 more years. The 1st of 5 schools will be given on September 19th in Ft. Myers. In March, at a date yet to be decided, a school will be given in Ft. Lauderdale. Generally the schools are given every 6 months in Ft. Myers or Ft. Lauderdale. There will not be make-up schools for the first two schools . After the two schools are completed you would be eligible to student judge at the WORLD CONFERENCE in New Orleans which will be held in July of 2010.

**CO-LIBRARIAN'S NEEDED**

We have an outstanding library that we would like to see used. We need somebody with an interest in books and room for a standard bookcase. Two people would be perfect so that there would be a responsible person at every meeting. Most of these books are out of print.

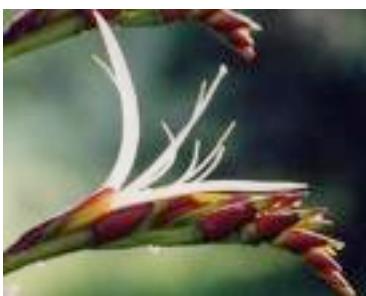
See Maureen Frazel to volunteer!

**NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING for August and September**

The Board will meet on August 24, Monday at 7:00 P.M.  
 and also on September 28, Monday at 7:00 P.M.

Jim Ward Community Center

Please make every effort to attend or call Maureen to be excused.



## Growing *Alcantarea imperialis* - Part 2

by Alan Herndon

*Alcantarea imperialis* would make an excellent show plant except for the problem of cleaning the plant for the show and moving it to the show location. A blooming size plant is heavy enough that very few individuals could move it without help under any circumstances. Add to that the necessity of handling the plant extremely carefully to avoid damaging leaves. For instance, you need to tip the plant over to drain the water from the leaves (the weight problem is partly helped by this maneuver since a large plant will hold several gallons of water at 8 pounds per gallon), but you have to do this holding only the pot or the base of the plant since you run the risk of tearing or slitting leaves if you grab them to improve your leverage. Of course, if you drop the plant while trying to empty the water, you guaranteed to crease and/or split several leaves. The problem is only exacerbated if you are dealing with a blooming plant. The tall (and massive) inflorescence, aside from hurting your leverage considerably, is easily damaged.

The tendency of this species to run along the ground can also pose some problems. If you are contemplating digging a plant out of the ground and putting it in a pot for the show, you will almost certainly be faced with the need to cut the horizontal stem. You will have to cut the stem short enough so it is possible to center the plant in an appropriately sized pot. Unfortunately, judging standards for bromeliads favor small pots, so much of the stem may be lost.

Once you have the logistics conquered (possibly through an army of helpers; possibly through use of heavy machinery), you need to spend time cleaning out the axils of your plant. Given the size and longevity of the leaves, you are likely to have a considerable growth of algae in the leaf axils. Liberal application of water to the tilted plant will flush out loose algae and detritus. For a thorough cleaning, you will need to remove the remaining algae by wiping down the accessible portions of the leaf in each axil.

Next you have to trim the dead leaves and leaf tips. Because *Alcantarea imperialis* has a large number of leaves on a blooming-size plant, it will also have a large number of (lower) leaves that are in various stages of decline. Typically, any given leaf dies back from the tip over a long period of time. Even after the leaf blade has turned completely grey, the associated leaf sheath may remain alive for many months. You should completely remove leaves that are completely dead, but you want to trim, rather than remove, leaves that have any live connection between the leaf base and the stem. The biggest problem is posed when you try to decide how to trim leaves where the blade is only partly dead. In a large plant, the lowermost leaves are the longest, so leaving the 'stumps' of the partially dead leaf blades is not true to the character of the plant. On the other hand, you will lose a lot of valuable photosynthetic surface if you trim all partially dead leaves down to the sheaths. You will need to consult experienced BSI judges for guidance.

A preferred direction of growth is usually established quite early for an individual plant. In fact, one of the greatest problems encountered when growing the plants in pots is that many plants start growing toward one side even in 5 inch pots. Even if you recenter the plant when moving it up to a larger size pot, it can end up at the side of the new pot within a year or so. You can determine the preferred direction of growth by looking at the base of the plant. The lowest parts of the stem will be leaning in the preferred direction. Or, you can just observe what side of the pot the plant is nearest.

*The tendency of this species to run along the ground can also pose some problems.*

There is considerable variation from plant to plant in the rate of horizontal growth (even within vegetatively propagated cohorts). You can spot the plants with a greater rate of horizontal growth at an early stage. It is reasonable to assume that plants are reasonably well centered when stepped up to a larger pot, so within a group of approximately equal age, the plants closest to the edge of the pots are the ones growing to the side most rapidly. If your intention is to grow the plants in pots, it will be useful to select plants with less horizontal growth. If the plants are designated for the landscape, the rate of horizontal growth is of less importance. However, rather than trying to change the direction of plant growth at a later stage, you might want to orient the plant(s) initially so any future horizontal growth will maintain or even enhance the overall landscape appearance.

In any given year an *Alcantarea imperialis* with a rapid rate of horizontal growth does not move much, but between planting and blooming (remember, this may easily be a period exceeding 10 years) it may move 10 feet or more from where it was originally placed. This should not be a problem if the plant is placed in an open area. You can even take advantage of this habit in your landscape. The plants will climb slopes as well as they creep along flat ground, so you can place rocks or berms in your landscape for the plants to grow up. This will keep the plant closer to the original planting spot as well as make the plant even more imposing.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The following new couples joined at the June 2009 meeting.

Marcia Johansen and Bob Knox

Kevin and Liz Killilea

We welcome you all and hope your will enjoy your journey with bromeliads!



NEO. Picasso

Photo by Bill David  
(right)



NEO. Franca

Photo by Bill David  
(right)

### CRYPTANTHUS

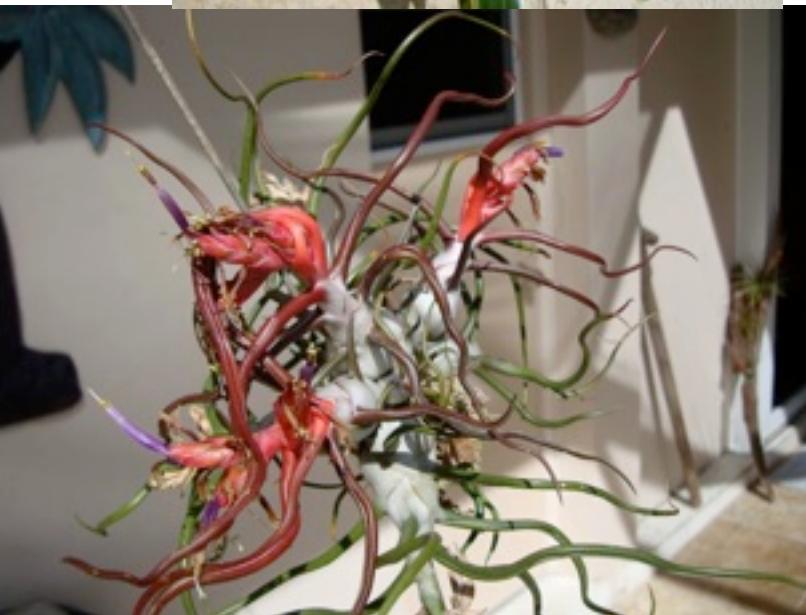
Cosmic Storm - Irvin J.

Photo by Bill David  
(left)



Tillandsia bulbosa (past bloom)

Photo by Bill David



Tillandsia bulbosa (full bloom)

Photo by Bill David

The bromeliads on page 6 and page 7 are from Bill and Marcia David's yard.





**T & C Tropicals**  
Specializing in  
Bromeliads  
21 Holly Lane  
Plantation, FL 33317  
954-530-0076  
954-931-1711

Tim and Colleen Hendrix



**BUD'S BROMELIADS**

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



NEO. Mocha Mint - "Bullis, H.?"

Photo by Bill David

### BSBC Country Store

The Garden Shop has the following items for sale at great prices!

See Bill Frazel to purchase.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRICE</u>
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

### 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 Coco-Cola plant; they are at the end of the road.

### EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

The Scurf has gone **GREEN** and your email address is needed if you wish to receive your SCURF online. The price to mail the Scurf has now risen to 44 cents.

Email your address to [marbilld@comcast.net](mailto:marbilld@comcast.net)

Thank You !!

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY  
Membership Application

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #'s      home \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_

Month of your birthday      \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

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

Permanent Name Tag?      No  Yes  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 and mail this page to:

Tami Newett, Treasurer

P.O. Box 17272

Plantation, Fl. 33318

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

at the

Jim Ward Community Center

301 NW 46th Ave.

Plantation, Fl. 33317

954-585-2353

Dates for January, February and December will be announced in the Scurf prior to the meeting.