

# Bromeliad Society of Broward County

## DECEMBER 2019 SCURF

[www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/](http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/)



*Bromeliad Christmas Tree At The Edison Estate, Fort Meyers, FL (Facebook Photo)*

**BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY**  
**P.O. Box 17272**  
**Plantation, FL 33318**



**Officers**

President		
Vice President	Shirley Konefal	954-632-4528
Treasurer	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Recording Secretary	Melissa Stevens	954-275-5526
Corresponding Secretary	Brad Beardsley	954-531-7322
Asst. Corresponding Secretary	Elsa Snavelly	954-584-5108

**Directors**

Eric Petrusha	954-647-8548
Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516

**Committee Chairpersons**

Country Store	Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516
Librarian	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Membership	Susan Mather	954-584-0908
	Judith Lahey	954-764-0429
Photographer	Eric Petrusha	954-647-8548
Plant Sale Table	Shirley Konefal	954-632-4528
Publicity	Eric Petrusha	954-647-8548
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466

**Interested in Learning More?**

Our monthly meetings generally offer a guest speaker on timely and noteworthy topics, member plant sales, a plant raffle, special holiday plant auctions, diagnosis of disease and pest problems, and a Country Store with selected bromeliad and gardening supplies.

We meet the third Monday of every month (except January and February) starting at 6:30

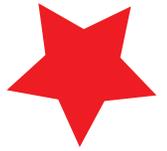
Deicke Auditorium  
 5701 Cypress Road  
 Plantation, FL 33317

**Affiliations: BSBC supports the BSI, Cryptanthus Society and FCBS (2017-2020)**





# Holiday Party



It's that time of year when we all come together for our annual Holiday Feast and Chinese Auction. As in years past, it's a pot luck style dinner with the BSBC providing ham, turkey, drinks, and coffee. Club members are asked to bring one item like an appetizer, a hot or cold side dish, or a salad to share with everyone. Please bring the serving utensils needed for your dish.

After dinner, join in the merriment by being a part of our Chinese Auction. To get in on the fun, simply bring a plant or garden item wrapped or disguised in a bag and place it with the others. Once the fun starts, it's everyone for themselves as you try to keep the gift you picked from the hands of the next person to choose or attempt to dump it so you can upgrade to one you like better. Either way, you're guaranteed to laugh the night away! Members will also be given a plant on their way out the door courtesy of the BSBC so you're a winner either way.



## **Official Chinese Auction Rules**

Numbers will be drawn one at a time at random. The first number drawn will select from all the plants on the table. The next number drawn will have the option of selecting an unopened gift from the table OR taking a plant previously selected. If the previously selected plant is taken, then that person selects another unopened plant from the table. The last number called gets to pick from ALL previously selected plants except from anyone who has had their plant taken twice. No one can have more than 2 plants taken from them. They get to keep the third

# Last Month's Meeting



That smiling face to the left is none other than our master auctioneer, Peter Kouchalakos who once again worked his magic to help the BSBC with it's annul fall auction.

While our crowd was a little smaller this time around, that just meant that Peter had to work harder to move the large collection in front of him!



This year's offerings had several rare plants as well as cherished books, plants, pots, and garden items from the collection of Richard Sedlak which he had donated before his untimely passing.

If you missed it, you missed out on some great plants at prices well below wholesale according to Peter. He even got a paddle and wasn't afraid to raise it to add to his own collection!



*Extra tables were setup due to the number of plants donated*





*Items from Richard Sedlak's private collection*

The fall auction is always a great way for BSBC members as well as the general public to add to their collection while also generating income for the club to help ensure we get great speakers at our monthly meetings and in a comfortable place.

A special thanks to David Terifay and Gina Havens for stepping up and distributing the plants to their lucky winners. Keeping up with Peter's pace is no easy task and they both did a marvelous job. So nice to have team players!

Of course the auction wouldn't have been such a success if not for the gracious donations from our club members. Additionally, Shirley Konefal spent hours touring local nurseries looking for unique plants that our members would appreciate. She even printed out images of several plants showing what they would look like when fully in bloom so that bidders could see the future. It was like having a crystal ball! Thanks to her and all the other volunteers that made it a fun evening by helping to bring new plants into our gardens and our hearts.

# From Our Gardens...



It's only fitting that the last Scurf of the year highlight the most colorful BSBC member, Larry Davis. Not only is Larry's signature hat collection legendary among garden clubs and plant shows in south Florida, but his plants are as well!

Larry has been growing, showing, selling, and even hybridizing bromeliads for two decades. As a highly valued BSBC member, he's a part of every meeting sharing his knowledge and running the raffle table.



*Vriesea 'gigantea' in back row*



*Neoregelia 'pendula'*



His journey into the world of bromeliads started when he purchased his home over twenty years ago. The home's seller had a collection of plants out front which Larry had never seen before. His purchase of the home hinged on the seller leaving half of the collection behind for Larry's enjoyment and so the journey began. He has since erected multiple shade houses in the back yard and spends his days caring for his large collection which is as colorful and unique as he is!



*Alcantarea 'odorata'*



*Unique wire form for tillandsia collection*



*Guzmania 'harriet' created by Larry Davis*



*Guz. 'harriet' in full bloom*



*Neo 'martins' out front for neighbors to take home*

Larry confesses that he doesn't obsess over names and while Orthophytums are his least favorite, he doesn't really have a favorite genus or species. He does however, favor neoregelias based on their growth rate and value to buyers at shows. As the photos show, his collection covers nearly every genus and includes many mature specimens that would be the envy of any collector.

He has hybridized several plants, but considers the Guzmania 'harriet', named after his girlfriend Harriet Abo, to be his greatest success to date and one that he will always have around...along as she'll have him! You can see more of his collection on our [website](#).

# From The Editor

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The tree is up, the house is lit, my daughter is home from college and all that's left is the last minute holiday shopping. It's hard to believe that the end of the year is just weeks away. Given the rains of the past several days, you'd think we were still in hurricane season here in south Florida!

It's been a busy year between juggling my work load, business and family travel, saying goodbye to two family members and of course multiple BSBC members both past and present. Losing people who are close to you is the hardest part of any year and makes me cherish those still around even more. I wake up every day thankful for all the blessings I have.

I've mentioned in several of my newsletters this year how therapeutic gardening can be to the soul. Of course you already know this which is why you're a gardener and in the BSBC family. Whether you're a current member or someone who was active in the past, but now lack the time or interest to be apart of our meetings, I hope that you haven't given up on gardening as a way to relax, unwind, and more importantly, find your inner peace.

One of the most rewarding aspects in my life has been working with and helping others who share common goals and passions. Whether for work or simply as a hobby, sharing knowledge and experiences makes all the difference. My father often told me that you get out of it what you put into it. Of course, I'm notorious for going a little overboard, but the rewards for that extra effort have been well worth it!

While I hope that you've enjoyed my ramblings these past 12 months as the Scurf editor, I'd really like to know what you'd like to see me cover in the Scurf as well as at our BSBC monthly meetings. What brom topic or area of interest can I share that would be helpful to you? After all, the goal of this club since it's founding in 1964 has been to educate it's members and create an atmosphere of collaboration so that together, we are more than any one of us.

You can simply reply to this newsletter email to share your thoughts with me or better yet, come to my house on Saturday, Jan. 11th from 1-4 pm. You can stroll through my garden, get your hands dirty at the potting bench, or just sit by the pool and talk plants for hours. If you're new to growing bromeliads or just have some questions you'd like answers to, there will be plenty of senior members there as well who know even more than I do.

Feel free to bring a couple of your plants that may need pups separated, re-potted, etc. and I'll provide the dirt, vermicompost, and pots. If mounting tillandsias and broms is something you want to know more about, we'll cover that too! There will be refreshments and I know my lovely wife will have tasty treats as well. There's lots of street parking, but car pooling is a great way to spend even more time with fellow club members. I hope you can attend!

*Until next time,*

*-Brad*

# December Birthdays



Brad Beardsley

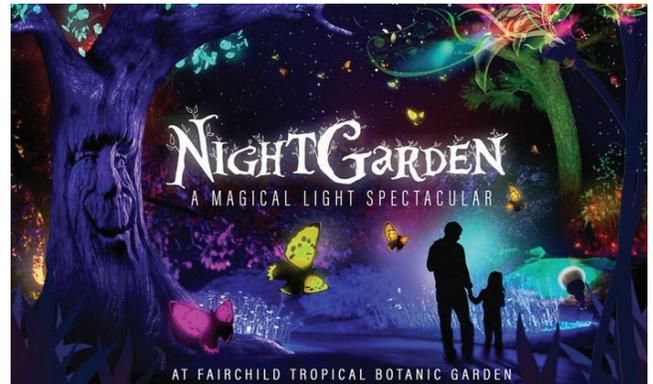
Bria Beardsley

Anton Hahna

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## The NightGarden Returns to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden This Winter With Enhanced Interactive Elements

After its wildly popular launch in 2018, **The NightGarden at Fairchild**, presented by Kilburn Live, is pleased to announce its return to Miami with exciting plans for its second edition. The limited-time event runs 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 pm Sunday-Thursday and 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 pm Friday-Saturday. Discount tickets are available through [GROUPON](#)



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## Learn More About Vermicomposting From Rhonda Sherman



Extension Specialist Rhonda Sherman is the director of the Compost Learning Lab at North Carolina State University and one of the leading experts worldwide on vermicomposting. Rhonda travels extensively to present workshops and to consult with farmers, businesses, and institutions on the development and management of vermicomposting systems. She organizes the highly successful annual NC State Vermiculture Conference, which for nineteen years has drawn participants from across the United States and around the globe. [Watch The Video](#)

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## Baby Names Inspired By Plants

Whether driven by family tradition or the desire for a more unique name, ideas for naming a new baby abound. From websites to close relatives and acquaintances, it seems that nearly everyone may have a suggestion for naming that sweet little bundle of joy.

[Read more at Gardening Know How](#)



# Upcoming Events, Things to See

Date-Time	Event	Place
Sat. Dec 14th	Learn How to Start Your Own Butterfly Garden	Butterfly World Tradewinds Park, 3600 W. Sample Rd. Coconut Creek, FL
Sun. Dec 15th, Starts at 11 am	Annual Botanical Bazaar	Miami Beach Botanical Garden 2000 Convention Center Dr, Miami Beach, FL 33139
Jan. 10-11-12, 2020	Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show	Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center
Sat. Jan. 11, 2020; 1-4 pm	Open Garden Tour at the home of Brad and Tammy Beardsley	Boca Raton, email <a href="mailto:bbtwest@msn.com">bbtwest@msn.com</a> for a map and directions
Jan. 17-18-19, 2020	Tamiami International Orchid Show	The Sunshine Pavilion at the Fair and Expo Center, 10901 S.W. 24th St., Miami, FL.
Jan. 22-24, 2020	<b>TPIE</b> Tropical Plant International Expo	Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
Mar. 13-15, 2020	18th Annual International Orchid Festival	Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL 33156
March 21-22, 2020 (tentative)	Annual BSSF Show	10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156
March 21-22, 2020 Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 9am-4pm	Garden Fest Plant Extravaganza	Volunteer Park Community Center 12050 W. Sunrise Blvd. Plantation, FL 33323
Apr. 4-5, 2020	Hatsume Fair Celebrating Spring at the Morikami Gardens & Museum	4000 Morikami Park Rd. Delray Beach, FL 33446
June 6-9, 2020	<b>BSI World Conference</b>	Hyatt Regency Sarasota, FL

## Looking Ahead...

**Saturday Jan. 11, 2020; 1-4 pm Open Garden Tour at the home of Brad & Tammy Beardsley. Come see their collection of plants and driftwood creations. You can even get your hands dirty at the "Potting Bench" where Brad will break out the worms and re-pot plants that you bring along. Great chance for newer members to get advice from the senior members of the club!**

**Tammy will of course have plenty of drinks and snacks out and at a safe distance from the worms!**