

# **Bromeliad Society of Broward County**

## **JULY 2019 SCURF**

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



*Neoregelia cultivar 'ninja pink'. Photo share from Facebook*

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



**Officers**

President	Richard Sedlak	954-296-5633
Vice President	Shirley Konefal	954-632-4528
Treasurer	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
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**Directors**

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**Committee Chairpersons**

Country Store	Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516
Librarian	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Membership	Susan Mather	954-584-0908
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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.

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



# President's Message



Our project of designing a bromeliad display for the T Y Park in Hollywood is going forward! Maurice Bruet has come up with a wonderful design which will include a berm and Tillandsia “tree”. Neoregelias and Aechmeas will be arranged in various layers and the result will be beautiful! Our thanks also to Brad Beardsley for all of the foot work on locating a tree that we can use as a center piece to mount the tillandsias on. We have also had some offers of donations of plants to use and we appreciate all of those offers.

We are now going into the “quiet” time of the year in terms of gardening. The plant shows and garden tours are on hiatus, but you can use this opportunity to plan for the upcoming season. Of course we have to run the gauntlet of the “H” season. It is never a matter of if, but when, the next storm will strike. Protecting your plants is always one of the priorities, I have found that the landscape Bromeliads are sturdy enough to handle the storms....some of their leaves might become shredded like mine did, but being bromeliads, they do what they do best....survive and regenerate. As for your potted plants, I would bring the favorites indoors and literally bunch the others in a protected place in the garden. I have never had a problem by doing that. The volume of them being all together insures their survival.

Please keep in mind that we are still looking for someone to join the board to fill our three year board member slot. It is an easy way to become a part of the workings of the Society and we always appreciate new blood!

**This month's meeting is Monday July 15, 6:30 pm at Deicke Auditorium**

## Our July Guest Speaker is Roger Hammer



Photo © Paul Marcellini

Roger L Hammer is an award-winning professional naturalist, author, botanist, photographer and even a survivalist instructor on the Discovery Channel's “Naked and Afraid” series. His list of professional accomplishments and awards, as well as his love of south Florida, are sure to make him one of the most interesting guest speakers we have ever had.

His presentation will be on “Epiphytes in Florida” covering many of our native bromeliads and orchids. He will be selling copies of his numerous books and if you're lucky, he may even autograph one for you. Don't miss this amazing guest speaker!

**The Country Store, Raffle Table, Silent Auction,  
and Member Sales Table will all be open**

# Last Month's Meeting



*Bria educating the audience with the science behind worms*

Our June meeting had not one, but two guest speakers who just happened to bring along 10,000 of their “employees” to help share their journey into vermicomposting. Bria and Brad described how their “worm condo” helps reduce waste while providing an endless supply of “Black Gold” and “Worm Tea” for their plants. Bria’s passion for environmental awareness was the driving force behind their decision to try vermicomposting, but the benefits it offers her father’s plants made several members take notice as well.



*Multi-tray worm bin with spout for “worm tea”*

The presentation had a hands on segment where members were able to see just how the system works as well as maintenance requirements, tips and tricks, and most even took home free samples!



*Seeing the methods behind Brad's healthy plants...the secret is out*



*Getting a close up look at the system and the rich compost*

## Five Key Benefits of Vermicomposting

- Diverting waste from landfills helps reduce methane gas in the atmosphere while saving precious land and community resources
- Compared to traditional types of composting, vermicomposting requires less space
- Faster production of nutrient-rich compost materials for your garden and plants
- Requires less effort because the worms do the heavy lifting for you
- Red Wiggler worms eat half their weight in food waste daily

<b>BROWN- Carbon Rich</b>	<b>GREEN- Nitrogen Rich</b>
Dry Leaves	Table Scraps
Straw, Hay, Pruning's	Fruit Scraps
Pine needles & cones	Vegetable Scraps
Newspaper	Fresh grass clippings
Shredded Paper (avoid glossy)	Weeds from garden (prior to going to seed)
Cardboard (shredded)	Coffee grounds and filters
Corncobs, stalks	Fresh fallen leaves
Dryer Lint	Tea Leaves & Tea bags
Eggshells	Hedge Clippings
Brown paper bags (shredded)	Old flowers



*Good rule of thumb for feeding worms is 2 parts Brown to 1 part Green*

*Not all food is good for worms*

For those who have interest in learning more, you can email Brad directly at [bttwest@msn.com](mailto:bttwest@msn.com) or join a Facebook group for worm lovers. There are lots of worm bin systems available on line at Amazon or direct from wholesalers specializing in vermicompost products. Brad got his worms from [www.unclejimswormfarm.com](http://www.unclejimswormfarm.com) who offer quality products and all the support needed.



*Member Plant Sales Table full of well-grown specimens*



*The Country Store has the right stuff at the right price*



*Raffle Table full as always*

There are numerous BSBC members behind the scenes at every meeting making sure things run smoothly.

There's a saying in the music business that "Stars make it rock, but roadies make it roll". The BSBC is blessed to have plenty of both!



*Silent Auction table had some unique plants as well*

## Fort Nelson Subway owner's worm composting experiment expands at local landfill

An experiment that started with a bucket of worms and a pile of garbage has grown into a major initiative at the Northern Rockies Landfill near Fort Nelson.

Two years ago, Wilf Hoath, owner of Fort Nelson's only Subway restaurant, noticed a problem with wax cups, paper wraps and chunks of sandwiches piling up at the dump, so he hopped in his blue truck and drove to Alberta to buy a bucket of red wiggler worms.



*Wilf Hoath stands at the landfill near Fort Nelson where his worms are busy chewing through waste. (Carolina de Ryk/CBC)*

"Some people are going to play hockey or whatever, and I just took a kick out of getting a pile of these worms. I wanted to see if they'd eat all the garbage in our Subway," said Hoath.

Red wiggler worms are used for a process called vermicomposting, which is when the worms eat organic materials and break it down into nutrient-rich castings that can be used for soil.

[READ MORE...](#)

## What To Do With Sunflower Hulls – Adding Sunflower Hulls In Compost



For many home growers, the garden simply would not be complete without the addition of sunflowers. Whether grown for the seeds, for cut flowers, or for visual interest, sunflowers are an easy-to-grow garden favorite. Sunflower seeds, when used in bird feeders, also attract a wide array of wildlife. But what can you do with all those leftover sunflower hulls?

[Read more at Gardening Know How...](#)

From time to time, our members send in articles they've come across that they feel would be of interest to other members. Here's a great one Gayle sent in case you're struggling to find time to exercise and still have time for your garden. You may not realize just how much of a workout you're getting when you tend to your plants. After reading, you may even want to cancel that gym membership! Thanks Gayle

If you find an article you want to share, just email the editor and we'll add it to the next issue!

## The 5 Benefits of gardening



The many benefits of gardening are all over the news these days. Gardening has something for everyone, from schools to assisted living centers. Here's our top five most appreciated gifts from the practice of gardening:

[READ MORE...](#)

Gardeners are almost always in motion, getting a moderate-intensity workout along with stress reduction.

## Antidepressant Microbes In Soil: How Dirt Makes You Happy

Prozac may not be the only way to get rid of your serious blues. Soil microbes have been found to have similar effects on the brain and are without side effects and chemical dependency potential. Learn how to harness the natural antidepressant in soil and make yourself happier and healthier. Read on to see how dirt makes you happy.

[READ MORE...](#)



# From The Editor



Ah, the heat of another south Florida summer is upon us and what better way to spend a 4th of July holiday than to sit by the pool with a cold drink, fire up the grill proving once again you're the master of the flame, and of course invite family and friends over to join you! Oh, and let's not forget a leisurely morning watering of all your plants so that they get hydrated to withstand the heat of the day to come.

If this sounds relaxing, I'm sure it would be...that is unless you had the week I had leading up to the 4th. I instead chose to move my family (and all my plants) into a new home during the hottest season of the year!

If you've read any of my articles over the past 6 months, you've probably gathered that I'm not the most conventional person. However, even I didn't see this one coming. The house we've been in for seven years developed a major problem under the slab which required us to relocate. Having outgrown my current home and yard, I saw this as an opportunity to get a house with room for more plants and maybe even a pool. Being in total denial about how many plants I have, I didn't see this as a major challenge. If you've ever had to move your collection, you understand my pain.

The good news is that we found a home just 3 miles from our current one so I decided to get a rental truck and move us with the help of what hopefully are still dear friends. What I forgot was that I've aged a bit since my last move and Advil doesn't revive me like it used to! I'll spare you the details of moving the 100 year old piano that weighs 700 pounds as well as the exercise equipment that I rarely use. Both of which became evident as soon as I picked up my end! I'll focus instead on the challenge of relocating what I now must admit is an extensive plant collection. Since the majority of my plants are potted, I figured it would require some boxes and little else...right?



It took two full trips using a 20' truck with a few even riding up front in the AC! I didn't take pics of the rest due to the rain...the only thing that makes moving even worse. My wife knows how much my plants mean to me and was eager to help load and unload, at least that's what I think she said. It was hard to be sure over the pouring rain, thunder, and hand gestures :o)

Fortunately, every plant survived the trip with only a few broken leaves and some sun burns from the lack of shade in the new side yard (sounds like an opportunity). The good news is that I still found time for the pool and grill thanks to my friends from Tampa Bay who came over to help unpack. I sent them home with lots of plants now that I've got them addicted to broms. I'll of course be sharing pictures once the plants have acclimated to their new habitat and we will plan an outing for the club to visit us this fall when it cools down.

*Until next time,*

*-Brad* 8

## July Birthdays



Becky Blackwood      Vann Elliott      Sabel Fernandez  
 Nancy Kerns                  Jim Kerns  
 Kay McGinn                  Linda Romalin      David Tarifay

**Summer is a great time to catch up on your reading  
 To checkout a book, call Becky Blackwood @ 954.791.8017**

Title	Author	Copyright
Blooming Bromeliads	Ulrich Baensch	1998
Brazil Orchid of the Tropics	Mulford & Racine Foster	1945
Bromeliaceae Andreanae	Edouard Francois Andre	1983
Bromeliaceae Ole Proceedings of the 1982 World Bromeliad Conf	Corpus Christi Bromeliad	1982
Bromeliaceaes of Venezuela	Francisco Oliva-Esteva	1987
Bromeliaceas en Flor (In Spanish)	Ulrich Baensch	1996
Bromeliads	Francisco Oliva-Esteva	1996
Bromeliads - Genera, Species, Hybrids	Louis Dutrie	none
Bromeliads (Copy #1)	Victoria Padilla	1973
Bromeliads (Copy #2)	Victoria Padilla	1973
Bromeliads for Contemporary Gardens	Andrew Steens	
Bromeliads for Home Garden & Greenhouse	Werner Rauh	1973
Bromeliads Horticulturalist Guide	Jack Kramer	1981
Bromeliads in Cultivation	Robert Gardner Wilson	1964
Bromeliads in the Brazilian Wilderness	Elton M.C. Leme	1993
Bromeliads in the Atlantic Forest	Elton M.C. Leme	1997
Bromeliads, Houseplants of Today & Tomorrow	Walter Richter	none
Bromelien (German)	Werner Rauh	1973
Canistropsis - Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest	Elton M.C. Leme	1998
Jewel of the Tropics - The Bromeliads	Lyman B. Smith	1969
Nidularium - Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest	Elton M.C. Leme	2000
Searching for Miss Fortuna - The Hunt for a Bromeliad	Chester Skotak	2007
Taking Bromeliads		
The Colorful Bromeliads - Their Infinite Variety (Copy #1)	Victoria Padilla	1981
The Colorful Bromeliads - Their Infinite Variety (Copy #2)	Victoria Padilla	1981
Tillandsia II	Paul T. Isley III	2009
University Press of Florida		2011

# Upcoming Events, Things to See

Date-Time	Event	Place
July 12th & 13th	Mango Festival	Fairchild Gardens, Coral Gables
At your convenience	The Gardens of Vizcaya	3251 S Miami Ave, Miami, FL 33129
At your convenience	Morikami Gardens & Museum	4000 Morikami Park Rd. Delray Beach, FL 33446
At your convenience	Coral Castle Museum	28655 S Dixie Hwy, Homestead, FL 33033
Sept. 20-21 2019	Bromeliad Extravaganza Conference/Sale	Marriott's Springhill and TownePlace Suites, Orlando FL
Oct. 17-20, 2019	Golden Broms	Queensland, Australia !!!!
June 6-9, 2020	BSI World Conference	Hyatt Regency Sarasota, FL
2021	Australasian Bromeliad Conference	New Zealand !!!!!

## Support Local Businesses



**Got a business you would like  
to advertise?**

**Ads in the SCURF are \$50 for 6  
months, \$100 for 12 months  
Contact Becky Blackwood if interested**

## Looking Ahead...

**August Meeting: Monday, August 19, 2019, 6:30 pm at Deicke Auditorium.**

**Start planning your trip to the BSI World Conference in Sarasota next year.  
It will be here before you know it!**