

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

MARCH 2022 SCURF

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/



Neoregelia 'martin' grown in deep shade with lots of vermicompost. Photo by B. Beardsley

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



Officers

President	Brad Beardsley	954-531-7322
Vice President	Shirley Konefal	954-632-4528
Treasurer	Linda Romalin	954-907-1333
Recording Secretary	Kevin Gale	954-328-2761
Corresponding Secretary	Brad Beardsley	954-531-7322

Directors

Eric Petrusa	954-647-8548
Shirley Wiggin	954-472-0366
David Harris	305-342-4349

Committee Chairpersons

Country Store	Brad Beardsley	954-531-7322
Membership	Susan Mather	954-584-0908
	Judith Lahey	954-764-0429
Photographer	Eric Petrusa	954-647-8548
Plant Sale Table	Shirley Konefal	954-632-4528
Publicity	Brad Beardsley	954-531-7322
Refreshments	Carol Plask/Jack Mackey	561-445-7649

Next Meeting

Our March meeting will be Monday 3/21 starting at 6:30 pm sharp! We had a last minute change in guest speakers, but wait until you see who VP Shirley Konefal lined up!

We also have several items to discuss and review before the guest speaker starts so plan to attend!

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



This Month's Guest Speaker



Our original speaker for March had a scheduling conflict and had to cancel at the 11th hour. Fortunately for the BSBC, our VP Shirley Konefal was able to find a replacement in time and what a program it will be!

Chip Jones is no stranger to the BSBC and was actually our guest speaker just a few months ago. He's since spent time with the GOAT of the bromeliad world, Chester Skotak, and will be presenting an entirely new program based on his time spent with Chester.

Chip's program will be on variegated Neoregelias which are always a favorite among most brom enthusiasts. Join us to learn more about Chip's experiences with Chester and hear first hand the tips and tricks that he absorbed. Chip is one of top landscape designers and growers in our region and always delights our group with his vast knowledge and experience. The meeting starts at 6:30 so plan to be there and bring a friend!

BSBC Officer Elections

February was election month so we need to vote in the group at the March meeting to make it official. Member Kevin Gale volunteered to fill the Secretary position and was the only one to step forward to fulfill a position. Therefore, the remaining officers as well as the committee chairs have to serve another term. We hope that we can give them a breather soon!

Here are the positions and the people who have graciously agreed to give their time to fulfill them:

President- *Brad Beardsley*

Vice-President- *Shirley Konefal*

Secretary- *Linda Romalin*

Treasurer- *Kevin Gale*

Corresponding Secretary- *Brad Beardsley*

Last Month's Meeting



Our February meeting was a bit of a twist as our guest speaker was our favorite auctioneer, Peter Kouchalakos. This time however, Peter wasn't calling out bids, but rather sharing his decades of experience growing bromeliads and orchids. He brought along dozens of plants and focused his talk on how to get the most from your plants and your landscape designs.

We had a great group attending and it didn't take Peter long to get everyone engaged in the discussion and absorbing the valuable information. Even our most advanced growers learned a trick or two and his witty delivery was just as fun and informative as only Peter could do!



Peter started with the basics talking about soil types and amendments as well as growing various types of bromeliads and orchids as epiphytes on trees, rocks, and other media. He used several of the plants he brought to show how varying light exposure as well as fertilizer will change the color and even the physical aspects of a plant.

To demonstrate this, he showed several pairs of plants like the Aec. 'orlandiana' (above center) that were raised with varying conditions to get this point across. It was clear that tillandsias are one of this favorite genera to grow, but he covered several other varieties including Vriesea, Guzmania, Neoregelia, and Aechmea as well as several orchid varieties.





As always, members who arrived early got first choice from the wide variety of plants that Peter brought to sell. His offerings included everything from classic and rare tillandsias to dozens of other bromeliad genera including some amazing Neo and Guzmania hybrids!



Of course, no evening with Peter would be complete without learning more about the pioneers in the industry that Peter has worked along side as well as the early history of plants and hybrids that we now take for granted. It's not in Peter's humble nature to admit it, but he too is a legend in the industry and a true south Florida treasure!



We had a nice selection of plants on the raffle table at the last meeting and plenty of members willing to take a chance on winning them. We also had several new members who joined us for the first time and as usual, they walked away with a majority of the best plants!

Oddly, it seems to happen a lot with our new members so if you have a friend, bring them along and make a deal to get half of their plants in exchange for the ride. Even Peter got in on the action!



Attending the monthly meetings is more than just learning from great guest speakers and getting new plants. It's a chance to get out and reconnect with friends who share your love of bromeliads.

After not having indoor meetings for the majority of 2020 and 2021, what better way to reward yourself than to spend an evening hanging out with us. We only have 3 meetings left before our summer break and with two plant shows and a spring auction before the break, you can't afford to miss a single meeting!

DON'T FORGET TO PAY YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES



Sue Mather and Becky Blackwood working hard

Behind the scenes of the BSBC, you'll find the hard work and dedication of our officers, board members, and committee leaders like Sue Mather and helper Becky Blackwood (left). Both have spent many years volunteering their time to help the BSBC!

Without their efforts and the efforts of others like them, we could not continue to offer quality speakers or meeting venues such as Jim Ward. Together with your continued support, the BSBC continues to be a shining light in Broward county!



Here's A Trick You Can Try...

The next time you get sushi from your favorite restaurant, save the wooden chopsticks and use them to help support your new pups!

Planting pups too deep in the soil can promote rot yet they tend to fall over while waiting for roots to develop. This trick helps repurpose the sticks and keep them out of landfills while keeping your pups healthy and upright until they can support themselves. Just another way to get more for less!



From Our Gardens



Every month we look forward to seeing what's new and what is in bloom in our members' gardens. As you know, so many of our beloved broms only give us a brief glimpse of their most prized form so it's important to take a photo to celebrate this milestone. Some will take years to mature while others only a season or two. Either way, it's Nature's gift to share!

So the next time you're in your garden and something catches your eye, take a photo for yourself and send a copy to us so we can share with others. If you end up with a lot of pups, you can always bring one to the raffle table to share as well. Here's this month's collection so enjoy!



The photos above come from a BSBC regular contributor, Keith London. This month Keith sent us a couple of colorful inflorescences that he recently found in his garden. If you look closely, you'll see 'Waldo' blending into the palette as well.

Keith also found one that he's not had bloom before. The *Goudea ospinae* (above right) certainly is making itself noticed! Thanks for sharing, Keith.



The next set of plants come from Sue Mather who shares her Neo. 'lorena lector' (upper left) along side two gorgeous *Billbergia*. While we all know they don't last, seeing them never gets old.

The *Billbergia* 'las mancha' (above right) was sent in by Gina Havens. Gina's knack for growing amazing *Billbergias* always makes her plants some of the most sought after at our annual plant sales and auctions!



This group of plants comes to us from Brad Beardsley who always seems to have something blooming in his collection. The *Tillandsia* 'peach capitata' cluster (above far left) is enjoying the spring sun as are the *Aec. nudicaulis* 'parati' (above).

Not to be out done, the *Guzmania* 'abigail' (above right) is hard to miss while passing by it's colorful inflorescence that sits atop a large green foliage. Last, but not least, a *Billbergia* 'novena' (left) showing off its multicolored blooms. Thanks to everyone who sent in photos this month!

Look What Else Is New



A new database has been added to the BSI.org [website](https://www.bsi.org) called the Bromeliad Species Database or BSD for short. It's a central platform to share photographs, literature and discussion on Bromeliaceae. Check it out when you get time!

From The Editor



I'm looking forward to the upcoming spring plant sales that the BSBC will be selling at. The first is the 40th Annual International Orchid & Bromeliad Show taking place April 16th & 17th at Flamingo Gardens in Davie, FL. The show hours are 9:30 am- 4:00 pm each day.

I'm told we've not sold plants at this show before, but I've been to it several times and it's one of the best in our area each year! I always walk away with a load of new orchids and broms and enjoy seeing the other exhibits and sites that this local botanical garden has to offer its visitors. I hope you'll join us for this special event.

The next one is the Heritage Park Plant Sale taking place May 7-8 here in Plantation. It's one of our regular shows where we sell plants twice a year and while it's a smaller show than the one at Flamingo Gardens, it's one we always do quite well at.

This year the BSBC Board elected to change the sales split so that 70% goes to the member and 30% of the sale price goes to the BSBC to cover it's costs to enter the show and to help fund our society's other functions. If you're like me and your collection has gotten out of hand, here's a great way to downsize it a bit while sharing the fruits of your 'labor of love' with others.

If you've not sold your plants at a show before, here's a few things to know and a couple of tips that will make the experience more rewarding for you and those looking for plants.

- Tear off any dead leaves and trim foliage that show signs of sunburn or damage
- Clean the outside of the pot and make sure to top off with soil mixture, rocks, etc.
- Include a name tag letting buyers know what the plant is
- Include a second tag that has your seller number and the price you want for the plant
If you don't have a seller number or forgot yours, check with Sue at this month's meeting and she will assign you one.
- You can also stick colored dots with the price on the plant to make it easy for buyers
- Bring your plants during the setup period and plan to help out for a few hours during the show. You'll get a chance to interact with the buyers and share your knowledge

I promise you'll have fun and enjoy the experience. You'll even have time to walk the show and find something new for your collection now that you have some space in your garden!

Until next time,

-Brad

March Birthdays



Carolyn Cray Lexi Garvey
 Melissa Garvey Anne Marie Langolis
 Jack Mackey Ricki Witte

Upcoming Events, Things to See

Date-Time	Event	Place
Mar. 21; 6:30 pm	BSBC monthly meeting	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation
Revised date to be announced	BSSF Annual Show and Sale	Fairchild Gardens, 10901 Old Cutler Rd, Coral Gables, FL 33156
Apr. 16-17; 9:30am-4pm	40th International Orchid & Bromeliad Show- BSBC has a booth!	Flamingo Gardens, 3750 South Flamingo Road Davie, FL 33330
Apr. 18; 6:30 pm	BSBC monthly meeting	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation
May 7-8	Heritage Park Plant Sale	Heritage Park in Plantation, FL
May 16th 6:30 pm	BSBC Spring Auction	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation
June	BSI World Conference	Hyatt Regency Sarasota, FL

Other events worth sharing!



Broward Orchid Supply

SANDI JONES

**WE'RE NOT JUST FOR ORCHIDS
 - SUPPLIES FOR ALL YOUR GROWING NEEDS**

2411 GARFIELD STREET
 HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA 33020
 954-925-2021

BROWARDORCHIDSUPPLY.COM
 FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM
 BROWARDORCHIDSUPPLY@COMCAST.NET

HOURS VARY - CALL FIRST



Native Plant Sales 2022

A variety of native plant nurseries and vendors will display and sell plants native to South Florida and other plants beneficial for butterfly and wildlife gardening.

Saturdays

February 12
 9 a.m. – noon
 Anne Kolb Nature Center

April 2
 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Secret Woods Nature Center

April 30
 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Fern Forest Nature Center

September 17
 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Fern Forest Nature Center

October 22
 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
 Secret Woods Nature Center

Hosted by Broward County Parks
 Sponsored by The Fern Allies of Fern Forest Nature Center, The Friends of Anne Kolb Nature Center, The Friends of Secret Woods Nature Center

BROWARD COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION

Anne Kolb Nature Center 751 Sheridan St. • Hollywood • 954-357-5161
 Fern Forest Nature Center 201 Lyons Rd. South • Coconut Creek • 954-357-5188
 Secret Woods Nature Center 2701 W. Slate Rd. 84 • Dana Point • 954-357-8884