

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

OCTOBER 2020 SCURF

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/



Blooming tillandsias grown and photographed by our own Kay McGinn

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY
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More blooming tillandsias from the gardens of Kay McGinn. Her photo skills are impressive too!

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



Remember When?

Remember when the 3rd Monday of the month was something you looked forward to? How about the opportunity to learn from an interesting guest speaker? If that doesn't jog your memory, what about the plants? You just knew whether you purchased from the guest speaker of the month or tried your luck at the raffle table, you were coming home with new plants!

It's been so long since many of us have seen our BSBC family that we wanted to share some blasts from the past. After eight months of sitting on the couch binge watching your favorite programs, this jog down memory lane may be the only exercise you get today!











Several of you have shared how much you miss seeing the group so hopefully these photos help. They remind us of a time when we could sit closer than 6', laugh without a mask on, and simply share our love of bromeliads without the pressures of social distancing.

While our in-person monthly meetings are still on hold, we look forward to that time now more than ever. Hopefully this pandemic break will make us appreciate what we have even more. So dust off your hats Larry Davis and get ready for 2021! We have to make up for all the missed raffle tables, plant sales, and time spent just sitting around a table sharing our love of broms and gardening.



More Plants For Markham Park

Earlier this month we received word that avid gardener, Sydney Sotor, needed assistance in clearing some of the overgrown bromeliad beds from her property. Word went out to BSBC members and once again we've collected some nice specimens to be used at the Markham Park site.



Sydney Sotor chipping in to clean up



Several species were growing in this large bromeliad colony



Melissa and Sue taking a much needed break

It was a lovely fall morning spent helping a fellow gardener regain some space while gathering more plants for the upcoming project at Markham Park.

Here Melissa Garvey and Sue Mather (left) take time to pose for a quick photo op between pulling up some ferocious bromeliads that weren't for the faint of heart. We also got help from Brad Beardsley and Marianna Yi who helped make quick work of what seemed like a nearly impossible task to Sydney!



Roadside "Freebies" cleaned and ready

The team even left several plants by the side of the road (left) for neighbors and anyone that wanted them.

By lunch time, plants that took years to grow were all removed to get a new lease on life elsewhere.



Sydney will surely make it gorgeous again

The plants that were removed are now being fostered by Sue and Brad and will find their way to Markham Park later this fall. There they will once again bloom and be enjoyed near the entrance of this vast 69 acre park located in the southwest corner of Broward county.

From The Editor



I recently shared a post with our BSBC Facebook group that I need to have a “collection reduction” event. While some in my household may think a plant intervention is needed more, I truly am out of space which is traumatic to me considering how long my “must have” list still is!

I’m at a point where in order to have room for future plants, I may have to secretly plant dozens in my neighbor’s yards while they sleep. I’ve even considered handing out Neos and tillys rather than candy this Halloween! Imagine talking your parents into letting you go out to “trick or treat” and then some old guy gives you a plant! Maybe an intervention is needed?

In analyzing why I’m out of space, the primary reason is that my plants give me so many pups! Here’s a perfect example. The photo (below left) is of a nearly 3 year old Neo. ‘cruenta rubra’ that is near the end of its life. It was twice this size a year ago and has already given me 18 pups with another one already up! While I’ve given many away, the garden bed image (below right) shows the twelve I still have. This Neo is just one of the dozens of plants I started with in 2017!



3 year old Neo. ‘cruenta rubra’ that refuses to die

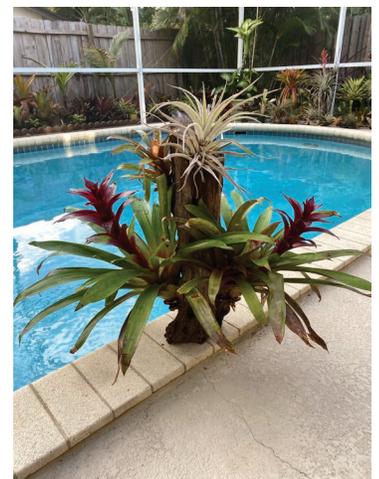


These cruenta pups need a new forever home!



Besides the number of pups I typically get, my space constraints are also a result of size. Many of my plants get much larger than the ones I see in local nurseries.

This Guz. ‘abilgail’ pup (left) is one of 16 that sprouted from the parent I got two years ago. I attached several to a wood creation (right) while others were left in pots. I now have nearly a dozen like this which measure up to 22” tall and over 24” wide. I can’t wait to see these bloom!





Prior to latest pup harvest



Here are the seven pups that I removed today



31 pups and counting

I've shared this Neo. 'concentrica' before, but it just won't stop producing pups. I took these pics this morning as I removed the latest crop. The parent (left) is nearly three years old and has been creating pups for the past two. I used it in June 2019 as part of my vermicomposting presentation. I removed 6 pups prior to that day and 8 more at the end of the presentation. I brought it back a few months later with no less than 8 more attached to it. I later removed 2 to share with some neighborhood gardeners and today, 7 more are now set free. That's 31 pups from a single plant and looking at her after today's harvest, I know she's not done. Anyone need a Neo. 'concentrica'?



Beyond my potted brom treasures, my tillandsias tend to be just as prolific. This Tillandsia 'super steve' (left) developed a cluster of blooms on it after nearly a year of waiting. It's mere size left me hoping that I would get a couple of nice pups that I could use on some of my future wood creations. Well I can tell you that won't be a problem.

This photo (left) shows many of the 11 pups simultaneously sprouting at it's base and as they grow, they are going to make one large cluster. I'll have to separate them at some point considering that the parent was nearly a cubic foot in size. It reminds me of the cramped home from the movie "Yours, Mine, and Ours"! Now that I think about it, that kinda makes sense...after all, their last name was Beardsley!

I have to give credit to the thousands of worms that have helped my collection grow along with the abundant rains that we have had the past few years. I did lose several due to excessive heat this summer and I gave dozens to friends and neighbors though walking my gardens you'd never know it. Not having the raffle table to absorb some each month has also contributed to my over crowding.

To help with my population control, I'm sending several to contacts I made in the Bahamas after the 2019 hurricane season and there will be plenty to share later this year when Tammy and I host another open house at our home. Since there is little chance Deicke will reopen in 2020, it may be the only chance we get to mingle prior the beginning of 2021. I for one am really looking forward to starting a new year and getting back to normal...whatever that looks like now!

Until next time,

-Brad

October Birthdays



Denise Addison

Susan Gutman

Carol Plask

Upcoming Events, Things to See



Mounts Botanical Garden in West Palm is hosting their annual fall plant sale on Saturday Nov. 7th from 9 am-4 pm and Sunday the 8th from 9 am-3 pm.

You can get more information and details by visiting their [website](#).

Our sister society in central FL is also having a fall plant sale on Saturday Nov. 7th in case you're up near Orlando for the weekend.

It's runs from 8 am-4 pm and is being held at the Mead Gardens located at 1300 S. Denning Drive, Winter Park, FL 32789.



Make plans to attend our year end event at the home of Brad and Tammy Beardsley since we don't expect Deicke will reopen before next year.

It will be held on a weekend in early December so start planning your Secret Santa gift now. We will of course give you plenty of notice once the date and time are set.

You won't want to miss the only BSBC event since Feb. 2020!

