

# **Bromeliad Society of Broward County**

## **September 2022 SCURF**

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



*Blooming Alcantarea 'Imperialis' from the gardens of Mike Harris*

**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 Petrusha	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 Petrusha	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

**LIVE MEETINGS RETURN!**

The summer break is over which means we will be meeting at Jim Ward Community Center this Monday evening, September 19th starting at 6:30 pm.

**JWCC is located at 301 NW 46th Ave Plantation, FL 33317**

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



# September Guest Speaker



Dr. Terrie Bert is our September guest speaker and no stranger to our society. Her program will be “Growing Beautiful Bromeliads in Central Florida”.

She will be bringing about 200 bromeliads from many different genera and talk about growing them in central Florida. These plants will also be for sale after the presentation, so you’ll have the opportunity to purchase your favorites. Terrie will also include information on the ecology and history of the various genera, as well as humorous stories about growing bromeliads and cultivation tips for Florida.

Dr. Terrie Bert is a longstanding member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society (SBS) as well as the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and has held multiple offices in the SBS. She also served the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) as a representative and officer for eight years and has authored multiple articles for the FCBS Newsletter. For the Bromeliad Society International, she has been the librarian and a Florida Director. She chaired several international committees, judged several shows, contributed articles to the BSI Journal, and has been an invited speaker at world conferences. Currently she is Curator of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence and a Master Judge.

Terrie has given over 175 presentations on bromeliads to numerous U.S. and international bromeliad societies and to other groups, including regional and international bromeliad conferences. She cultivates more than 2,000 different bromeliads in about 35 genera. She’s won multiple top awards in local bromeliad shows and BSI world conferences. She also recently obtained her Master Naturalist certification from the Manatee County Extension Service. Terrie has a Ph.D. in marine biology and recently retired from her position as a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

It's been 3 months since our last meeting and if you've been doing any gardening, you're probably running low on supplies!

The Country Store will be open before and after the guest speaker so plan to stock up!



# Fall Plant Affair



This past weekend was the 50th Broward County Plant Affair which was held at Volunteer Park in Plantation. It was originally planned for October 22nd & 23rd, but due to scheduling conflicts was moved up to Sept. 10th and 11th. This was our second Plant Affair of the year and as always, the BSBC flag was upfront with dozens of plants on display for buyers willing to brave the heat!

We had a few new sellers join our regular group which was nice to see and greatly appreciated. Part of the joy of growing bromeliads is being able to share them with others. Selling them helps to fund your plant addiction and that inevitable expansion your garden will undergo when the heat of summer is behind us!



Buyers were able to choose from colorful Neoregelia, blooming Aechmeas like the famed Blue Tango (above center), as well as Tillandsia, Orthophytum, and various other genera from our members' private collections. Sellers this time around included Sue Mather, Gina Havens, Brad Beardsley, Melissa Garvey, and Kenny Seesahai. As usual, VP Shirley Konefal was there to assist with checkout and answer questions from buyers. David Harris and Brigitte Sheeks also came both days to lend a hand and offer moral support along with cold waters which were appreciated!





Our booth had steady traffic on Saturday with less traffic on Sunday which is typical. We did, however, meet dozens of really nice people who have interest in attending a meeting so we may have several attend this month's meeting.

Of course that means they will just clean up on the raffle plants as the 'Luck Of The Raffle' is sure to continue!



David Harris and Gina Havens taking a needed break



Gina, Sue, and Brigette working the booth



Admission to the Broward County Plant Affair is always free and worth the trip. There is always a wide variety of fruit trees, ornamental and native plants, gardening supplies, and decorations to fit any garden design. You'll also find unusual treasures like these head planters (above right) that Eric found.

The vendors that sell each year bring fresh new ideas that can take your garden or patio from stale to fabulous in a single weekend! You never know what you'll find including this life-like recreation of 'Seymour' from the movie *Little Shop of Horrors* (right). Special thanks to Eric Petrusha for taking these event photos despite feeling under the weather!



# From Our Gardens

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BSBC member Gina Havens has a reputation of being the top grossing seller at our plant sales so we thought we'd visit her home to see her collection before the show. Her and her husband have a lovely ranch-styled home on a sprawling property full of mature trees and a well organized shade house stocked full of well grown broms and orchids.



We found row after row of perfect Billbergia nestled in among orchids and other bromeliad species. Gina says she now focuses on Billbergia after years of trying other genera. She says they take up less room and offer spectacular foliage combined with some of the best blooms in the world of bromeliads. They are also a favorite among buyers at most plant shows!



As the tour went on, we looked around every corner and in every nook and cranny hoping to catch a glimpse of the secret behind her success. What we realized by the end of the tour was that the real magic is her passion for perfection, her eye for detail, and her years of dedicated growing. Because her success doesn't come in a bag or a bottle, we imagine she will continue her rein of growing some of the best broms you'll find at any price. Thanks for the tour and free plants, Gina!

## BSBC Election Time

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While November is election time for our nation, the annual election of officers for the BSBC is also approaching. As defined in Article VII of the [By-Laws](#), the Executive Board shall present the proposed nominated officers' slate to the General Membership at the February meeting in advance of the March election. For too many years, changes in the society's leadership have been a game of musical chairs with the same few officers and volunteers simply replacing each other due to a lack of interest from the general membership. Many of the current officers have had to fulfill multiple positions year after year due to a general lack of other members' involvement.

The BSBC is heading into its fifty-eighth year making it one of the oldest organizations of its type in Florida. It would be a shame to see it cease to exist due to a lack of leadership from the current membership group. Here is a breakdown of the positions and duties as stated in Article IV of our charter.

## **ARTICLE IV EXECUTIVE BOARD AND DUTIES**

- 1. The Executive Board, otherwise referred to as the Board, will consist of nine elected individuals who must have an Active or Honorary membership status in the Society. The Board will be elected by the general Active and Honorary membership by majority vote of the eligible voting membership physically present at the noticed election meeting.*
- 2. Of the nine elected Board members, five will be officers of the Society. The officers will be the President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer. The five officers will each have Board voting privileges. The four remaining Board members will be three Directors-at-Large and the Immediate Past President. The three Directors-At-Large and the Immediate Past-President will also maintain Executive Board voting privileges*
- 3. The President, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer will each serve a term of 2 years. The Vice President and Corresponding Secretary will serve a term of 1 year. Each Officer may serve two consecutive terms in the same office.*
- 4. The duration of the term of office of each of the three Directors-at-Large will be for three years. In order to promote Board function, the election anniversary of the three Directors- at large will be individually staggered at sequential one year intervals.*
- 5. The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, shall be empowered to fill all vacancies on the Board, excluding the past president position, with temporary appointments. These appointees shall serve until the next regular election. The Vice- President shall be invested with and perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President.*
- 6. The Board will establish standing committees to promote the functions of the Society. These may include, but are not limited to Program, Publicity, Membership, Editor of the Scurf, Historian/Librarian, Special events, Refreshments, Show, Education and any other ad hoc committees deemed necessary by the President or recommended by the Board. The committee chairpersons will report directly to the Executive Board.*
- 7. The Board shall be empowered to authorize the monthly expenditures of not more than \$500.00. Any expenditure over this amount must be authorized by a majority vote of the general membership at a general meeting. Preparation and payment of governmental mandated taxes and levies, and their associated costs, are excluded from this limit.*
- 8. The President shall be invested with and be responsible for a monthly contingency fund of \$100.00 for on-going Society operations.*
- 9. All Board of Director actions require a majority vote of a quorum of the Directors present In-person or by telephonic/electronic medium at a duly noticed meeting. Proxy votes are not permitted. A valid Board of Directors' quorum shall require no less than 50% of the Board positions that are occupied at the time of the meeting, but under no circumstances 2 of 4 shall be less than 50% of the minimum number of 5 positions. All Board actions require a simple majority of the voting quorum members unless specified otherwise within the By-Laws.*
- 10. A quorum of the Executive Board, shall be empowered to fill all vacancies, except Immediate Past President, on the Board by majority vote. These appointees shall serve until the next regular yearly election.*
- 11. Any Officer or Director may be removed from office at any time by a simple majority vote of the general active membership at a duly noticed general membership meeting where a quorum of the membership, as defined in Article VI, para 4, is present.*

We have been running on a skeleton crew for some time now and our current President and Vice-President will be vacating their positions at the end of this year leaving a void that must be filled for the society to continue. We desperately need others to step up to fill these positions as well as any others they currently hold. Please consider holding an office or heading up a committee so that 2023 can be one of our best years yet! The burden becomes easier when there are more to carry the load.

# From The Editor



Fall is just around the corner and not a moment too soon! The summer heat has made even my sun-loving plants appear to cringe when night turns to dawn. To make matters worse, the tropical rainy season which normally starts in June has barely started until just this week!

Because of this one-two punch, it took a few more trips through my gardens to find enough plants for the recent Plant Affair. That's something I've not experienced in some time. Granted, I have plenty to choose from, but trying to decide what I'd save for the Fall Auction and upcoming Holiday Party without letting go of my favorites stressed me out just the same!

So many of my plants are showing signs of stress as well. I've been able to shade the more delicate plants under my large oak and pine trees, but the heat permeates their canopies as if they weren't even there. Several of my Guzmania and Neos have turned colors I've not seen before and even the hardiest of Aechmeas appear to be inching their way to more shady spots to dodge the sun's rays. If you're an entrepreneur, may I suggest developing sunscreen for plants?



Despite much of my collection not enjoying the heat this summer, my tillandsia (above) seem to be accepting what they can't change and doing what they do best. I have had several bloom since June so here are just a few of them.

I started some new Tillandsia driftwood creations this summer that are coming along nicely. They're not quite ready, but they may be ready in time for our fall auction in November or our holiday gift swap in December. One is over six feet tall while another weighs nearly 75 lbs!

I've started some smaller tilly creations that will take several more months for the roots to anchor. Larger broms and tillandsia are permanently tied on with coated wire while others are allowed to attach naturally over a period of months using only temporary twist ties, if anything, to hold them in place. I find this more natural approach works well for smaller plants allowing the loose ties to be removed once their roots grab hold of the wood beneath.



*Aec. 'roberto menescal'*



*Cryp. 'racing stripes'*



*Aec. chantinii 'ebony'*



*Hoenbergia 'leopoldo-horstii' dark form*



*Vri. 'mint julep'*

Here are just a few more of my plants that dared to bloom in the summer heat. They are under screen on my pool deck so they are somewhat protected. Others such as the Vriesea 'mint julep' (above right), have turned lighter in color than they were just two months ago! I hope they darken up once summer is over.

The tropical rains and cooler temperatures returned to south Florida late this week thus lessening the sun's impact on my plants and giving my gardens some much needed moisture. Tomorrow will be a good day to pull weeds because they seem to thrive no matter how dry or hot it has gotten.

*Until next time,  
-Brad*

# September Birthdays



Paula Finlayson

## Upcoming Events, Things to See

Date-Time	Event	Place
Sept. 19th, 6:30 PM	Monthly Meeting- Dr. Terri Bert	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation
Oct. 17th, 6:30 PM	Monthly Meeting- Alex Bello	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation
Nov. 21st, 6:30 PM	BSBC Fall Auction	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation
Dec. 19th, 6:30 PM	Holiday Party	Jim Ward Community Center- Plantation



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