

# SCURF

The Bromeliad Society of Broward County



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings!

Our Holiday party has come and gone and all 38 of us that attended had a wonderful time. The Plant Gift Exchange was great fun.....with one beautiful plant exchanging hands at least seven times. The club bromeliads were spectacular and this serves as a reminder to be at the January 25th meeting to get yours if you did not attend the Holiday party.

We now will look forward to another successful year at our **SAME ADDRESS** at the Jim Ward Center. We will not be moving after all. **PLEASE NOTE the DATE:** Our meeting will be held on the **FOURTH (4th) Monday, January 25th**. This is due to celebration of MLK's birthday on our regular meeting date. The same will hold true for our February meeting due to President's Day. It will be held on February 22nd, the **FOURTH (4th) Monday, February 22nd**. In March we will be back to normal - meeting on the 3rd Monday.

Many thanks to all who worked behind the scene this past year especially the outstanding speakers including Nick Bethmann, who last month gave great instructions on how to grow bromeliads from seed. It was fun to find the seeds in our plants at home and I'll bet everyone looked.

We are looking forward to Tom Wolfes 'presentation next month. Tom will be coming from Tampa and will give us great information dished up with a sly sense of humor.

A word from Bill Frazel regarding the bromeliads that bloom at Christmastime. These would be: *Aechmea 'Bert'*, *Aechmea orlandiana*, *Aechmea weilbachii*, *Aechmea disticantha* var. *schumbergeri*, *Billbergia sanderiana*, *Androlepis skinneri* and *Portea petropolitana*.

We hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, a very Happy New Year and a great Holiday Season.

Regards,  
Maureen Frazel

## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

P.O. BOX 17272  
PLANTATION, FL. 33312

### 2009/2010 Officers and Directors

|                          |                  |              |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| President                | Maureen Frazel   | 954-474-1349 |
| Vice President           | Caroline Plechac | 954-927-0015 |
| Recording Secretary      | Richard Sedlak   | 954-296-5633 |
| Corresponding Secretary  | Liz Killilea     | 954-693-3515 |
| Treasurer                | Tami Newett      | 954-316-8902 |
| Directors:               |                  |              |
| 3 year                   | Marcia David     | 954-321-9229 |
| 2 year                   | Larry Davis      | 954-434-8466 |
| 1 year                   | George Henderson | 954-630-8635 |
| Immediate Past President | Colleen Hendrix  | 954-530-0076 |
| Editor                   | Marcia David     | 954-321-9229 |
| Membership Chairman      | Marcia David     | 954-321-9229 |
| Photographers            | Tim Hendrix      | 954-530-0076 |
|                          | Bill David       | 954-321-9229 |

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

We meet the third Monday of every month (except January)

at 6:30 p.m.



The Bromeliad Society of Broward County is a member of, and supports:

**The Bromeliad Society International**

<http://bsi.org>



The Bromeliad Society of Broward County is a member of, and supports:

**The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies**

<http://fcbs.org>

Our clubs' reps are: Dr. Jose and Sara Donayre

DECEMBER MEETING:

The Holiday Luncheon was the December meeting.

## \*\*\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\*\*\*\*

We are pleased to announce that we will be staying at the **Jim Ward Community Center**  
301 NW 46th Ave (Park East Drive) in Plantation, Fl. 33317  
Plant sales and identification will begin promptly at 6:30 PM and the  
meeting will start promptly at 7:00 PM.



PLEASE BRING YOUR BLOOMING PLANTS FOR THE SHOW AND TELL TABLE

The Raffle Table is Open  
The Sales Table is Closed

Our Guest Speaker this month

**TOM WOLFE**

Tom Wolfe lives in Lutz, Florida (Tampa) where he operates a landscaping business. He has been collecting and growing bromeliads for over 35 years. In his years in the business, he has become an expert on the best bromeliads to use in particular settings, small and large, sunny and shaded. Tom has been active in the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay since 1966. He became President in 1969 and has served as President six times as well as most other offices. He was General Chairman of the 1992 World Bromeliad Conference in Tampa and served as Chairman of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies three times. He is a BSI master judge and has been judging shows since 1979. He has served as director and Secretary of the BSI and is now completing his sixth year as President. He is in demand as a speaker throughout Florida and the United States presenting programs on bromeliads to Garden Clubs, Bromeliad Clubs, and the University of South Florida Botanical Gardens. Tom has worked tirelessly through the years, providing leadership when needed, and promoting bromeliads on the local, state, national and international levels. He also is Director of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay. Tom and his wife, Carol grow their bromeliads on their 2.5 acres of land and greenhouses. Carol photographs blooming bromeliads in their yard and greenhouses each month and has a collection of 13,000 plus bromeliad pictures. Some of her bromeliad photos were recently published in the Tampa Bay Magazine. Tom will be using some of these photos in a power point program as he shares his knowledge about them.

This is truly a program you don't want to miss.

HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

to

Jon Cole, Sylvia Hill, Ellen Rhoades, Geraldine Seesashai,  
Diana Tuttle, Ken Workman, Jennifer Yates

HAPPY JANUARY BIRTHDAY

to

Pat Boone, Jean Tease, Laretta Smith,  
Gayle Spinell- Gellers, Deborah Wehnes and Lynn Molitor

*A very happy birthday to you all!*

If we missed your birthday or have you listed in the wrong month please correct me.

December AND January birthdays - please bring a contribution to the Refreshment Table for January.

Contribute refreshments in your month and get a [free raffle ticket](#) for a special drawing.

CO-LIBRARIAN'S NEEDED

We have an outstanding library that we would like to see used. We need somebody with an interest in books and room for a standard bookcase. Two people would be perfect so that there would be a responsible person at every meeting. Most of these books are out of print.

See Maureen Frazel to volunteer!



Pictures from the Holiday Party

by Alan Herndon

Days are beginning to grow noticeably shorter. The sun is lower in the sky. Temperatures are beginning to fall (although this may not be especially evident to most readers given that daily high temperatures have rebounded into the 80's or more as these words are written). We are truly seeing the end of summer, albeit more in promise than reality.

Bromeliads in our garden are still holding memories of summer, and plants that bloomed earlier in the year are displaying these memories in the rapid growth of offsets (pups). Keep careful watch on the offsets. As the sun goes lower in the sky, your offsets may find themselves in too much shade and become 'leggy' (with narrow and thin leaves that can't hold themselves up the way a proper bromeliad leaf should). You may have to move the parent plant into a location with more light or remove some shade from the vicinity of the parent plant.

It is important to reduce the amount of fertilizer you feed your plants over the next few months. With the reduced sunlight and cooler temperatures on the way (eventually), your plants will naturally be growing more slowly and will need less fertilizer. If you continue with your regular fertilizer schedule, your plants will respond in the same way as if you doubled the dose of fertilizer, or moved them into deep shade, during the summer months. The newer leaves will come up green and leggy. In addition to ruining the proper leaf proportions you are trying to achieve for the show table, this puts your plants at greater risk of damage when the inevitable 'cold' spells appear. Perversely, our coldest days and nights tend to come after a period of unseasonably warm weather. Over-fertilized plants will be growing as fast as possible during those warm periods, so the leaves will be thin and susceptible to cool, dry winds when a cold front moves through. The temperature does not have to fall to freezing. The dry winds themselves are sufficient to desiccate and kill thin leaves.

Within a month, we can expect nighttime temperatures to fall low enough that root growth is slowed and root initiation is halted entirely. Once that happens (and until temperatures rebound in late spring), it is useless to remove and plant offsets from most bromeliads before they produce roots unless you can provide artificial heat to the root zone. During summer, you often have to remove offsets before roots are formed just to keep the offset from overwhelming the mother plant, but, during winter, harvested offsets without roots tend to sit listlessly in their pots. They rarely produce roots before the return of spring, and they don't start to grow until roots are formed.

When you do find an offset with visible roots, it is usually safe to remove and repot. Already formed roots seem to grow adequately during our winters, and these offsets will continue to grow (slowly) throughout our normal cold weather. If you are unlucky enough to pot up an offset just before a really cold spell (this will, of course, always occur right after you have taken an extremely valuable offset), it might be wise to move the pot indoors for a day or so. Once the nighttime temperature returns to the seasonal average, put the plant back outside.

Beyond these generalities, you need to learn what plants in your collection need most protection from cold. Surprisingly, **Vriesea** (including **Alcantarea**) and **Nidularium** species and hybrids are among the more cold hard bromeliads. Also particularly tolerant are species in the *Ortgiesia* subgenus of **Aechmea** (**Ae. gamosepla**, **Ad. commato**, etc.) and many species of *Billbergia*. Unless we are expected to have temperatures in the 20's these plants don't need particular protection. For more information, you should consult a detailed list of cold hard bromeliads published by Tom Wolfe and Eileen Kahl in the Feb. 2007 issue of the Florida Council Bromeliad Societies quarterly publication.

On the other end of the spectrum, **Aechmea fulgens** and its relatives are famous for showing cold damage when temperatures dip in the 40's. **Cryptanthus** species and hybrids are also very susceptible to cool temperatures. Again, a freeze is not necessary - in a single night, cool dry winds in the 40's are perfectly capable of turning a plant ready for the show table into something that looks like it just came off the compost pile. Plants in this group greatly benefit from being grown next to your house throughout the winter. Heat from the house walls helps keep the air temperature slightly higher, and the house often provides protection against the cold winds. In a perfect world, you would be able to place sensitive plants against the south end of the house for winter. If you have a courtyard in your house, it is even better. In the imperfect world, you can still gain some benefit from having your plants next to the house in other exposures.

Most bromeliads fall between these extremes. They show visible damage when frost forms on the leaves (this can occur with temperatures a few degrees above freezing). You can protect these plants from frosts and light freezes by covering them with sheets of lightweight material overnight. The sheets will slow the rate of heat loss by radiation from the plant and its immediate surroundings, keeping the air temperature higher than it would otherwise be. If you use plastic sheets for this purpose, remember to remove them promptly in the morning or risk losing your plants to heat damage if the sun shines directly on the covered plant for any length of time. Usually, bromeliads growing under tree canopies (shade trees, not palms) do not need extra covering. The leaves in the tree canopy act effectively like a blanket.

Plants grown for the show next spring should be given a little extra care. Grow them near the house, even if they are not particularly sensitive to cold. If a really cold spell is predicted, take the time to move the plants into a completely sheltered location - even into your living room. Then, do not keep the plants inside any longer than necessary. As soon as the temperatures return to seasonal normals, place the plants back in their original locations outside.

Winter, aside from a few days when it really seems cold (although any northerner will laugh in your face if they hear you say so), is the nicest season for humans in southern Florida. With a little attention to their changing needs, you can also make it a fine season for your plants. (from November 09 BromeliAdvisory. Permission granted by Robert C. Meyer, Editor and Alan Herndon, author.)

U P C O M I N G E V E N T S A N D  
T H I N G S F O R S A L E

**NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING for January**

The Board will meet on Monday, January 25th, at 7:00 P.M.,

Please make every effort to attend or call Maureen to be excused.



More pictures from the Holiday party



**BROMELIADS FOR SALE**

Ann Kauffman is moving and will be selling off her entire collection of bromeliads.

She is keeping most of her Tillandsia's.

The shade house and lawn furniture is also for sale.

**For sale by appointment only.**

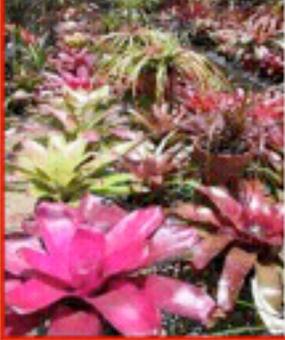
Call

954-966-5890



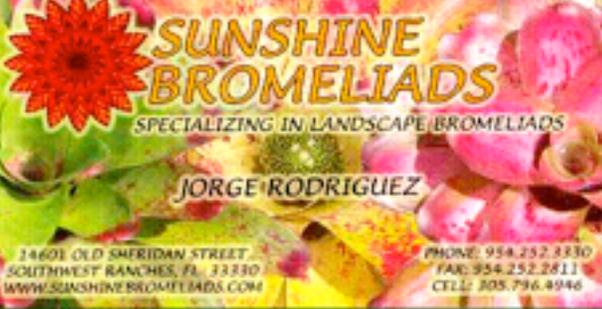
**T & C Tropicals**  
*Specializing in Bromeliads*  
 21 Holly Lane  
 Plantation, FL, 33317  
 954-550-0076  
 954-931-1711

Tim and Coleen Hendrix



**BUD'S BROMELIADS**

**BUD HENDRIX**  
 824 N. BEL AIR DRIVE  
 PLANTATION, FL 33317  
 954-583-8636



**SUNSHINE BROMELIADS**  
 SPECIALIZING IN LANDSCAPE BROMELIADS

**JORGE RODRIGUEZ**

14601 OLD SHERIDAN STREET  
 SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FL 33330  
 WWW.SUNSHINEBROMELIADS.COM

PHONE: 954.252.3330  
 FAX: 954.252.2811  
 CELL: 305.796.4946

**RENT THIS SPACE**

|                    |             |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Business card size | \$10.00 mo. |
| 1/2 Page           | 20.00 mo    |
| Full Page          | 30.00 mo.   |

**Good Christmas gift suggestion!**

Purchase a membership to the  
**Bromeliad Society of Broward County**  
 for a friend or relative

**EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED**

The Scurf has gone **GREEN** and your email address is needed to receive your SCURF.

The price to mail the Scurf has risen to 44 cents.

Only persons without computers will receive the Scurf by mail.

Email your address to [marbilld@comcast.net](mailto:marbilld@comcast.net) now to keep receiving your SCURF.

Thank You !!

**BSBC Country Store**

The Garden Shop has the following items for sale at great prices!

Paul Isley's III new book \$70.00 + shipping.

See Bill Frazel to purchase.

| <u>ITEM</u>            | <u>PRICE</u>         |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Five and Six inch pots | 5 pots for \$1.00    |
| Plant Name sticks      | 50 sticks for \$1.00 |

Other supplies may be purchased direct from:

Universal Enterprises Supply Co.

2171 Blount Rd.

Pompano Beach, Fl. 33069

954-979-0600 or 1-800-432-3009

Location

Directions from I-95:

Exit onto Copans Rd. west (exit #38), drive two miles west; turn left at the light for Blount Rd; as you're heading south, stay in your far right lane; it is actually a turning lane; stay in it, then make a right hand turn as it ends; pass the Coca-Cola plant and follow the road to the end.

Directions from the Turnpike:

Exit at Pompano Beach (exit #67) - Coconut Creek Pkwy & Martin Luther King Blvd.); after the toll booth make a left at the light onto Martin Luther King Blvd., then make an immediate left turn; you'll be heading north parallel to the Turnpike; go .08 of a mile; turn left when you see our sign - we share the road with a Coco-Cola plant; they are at the end of the road.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY  
Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #'s home \_\_\_\_\_ cell \_\_\_\_\_

Month of your birthday \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to serve on a committee or otherwise assist? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Permanent Name Tag? No \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ Paid \_\_\_

Membership Dues are:

**\$20.00** per year for individuals.

**\$25.00** per year for more than one member at the same address.

Please make your check payable to:

Bromeliad Society of Broward County and mail this page to:

Tami Newett, Treasurer

P.O. Box 17272

Plantation, Fl. 33318

**We meet at 6:30 PM on the 3rd Monday of the month, except January, February and December.  
at the**

Jim Ward Community Center

301 NW 46th Ave.

Plantation, Fl. 33317

954-585-2353

**Dates for February and December will be announced in the Scurf prior to the meeting.**