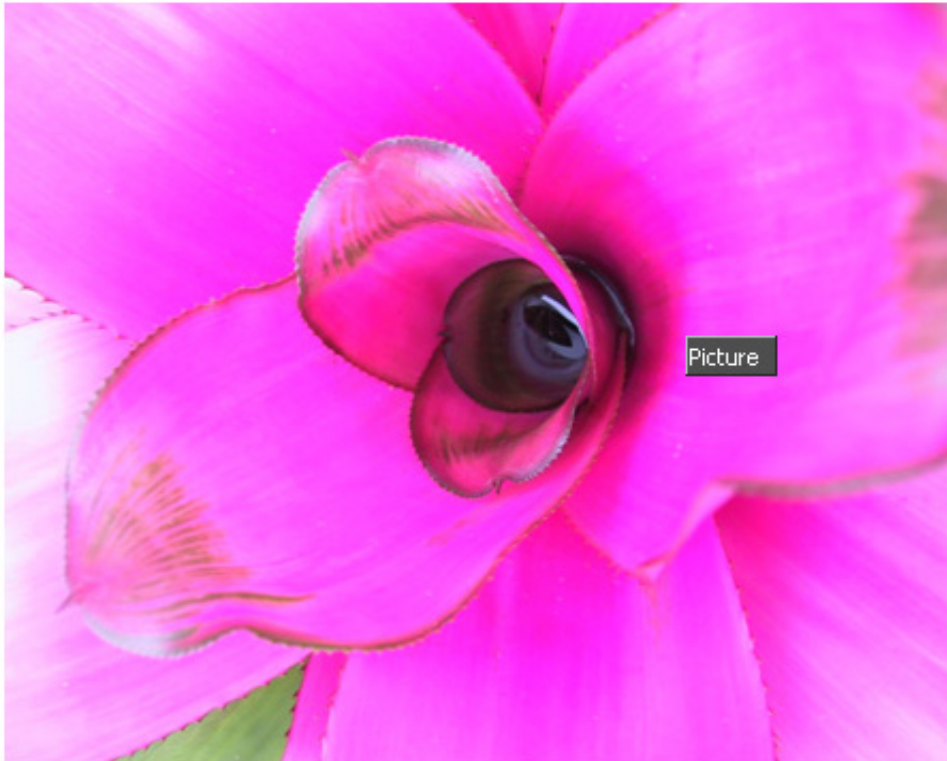


# Scurf

**Bromeliad Society of Broward County**

September 2003



NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2003, 7:30PM

**SPEAKER : DENNIS CATHCART WILL DO OUR PROGRAM ON TERESTRIAL BROMELIADS AND WILL BRING PLANTS FOR SALE. MAKE SURE YOU COME EARLY AS DENNIS HAS SOME OF THE BEST PLANTS AVAILABLE.**

**Plant sales will be closed.**

**Our October meeting is the annual plant auction. This is always a big event, so start getting your plants ready now!**

We meet the Third Monday of every month (except January) at 7:30 p.m. in the Broward Agricultural Extension Building  
3245 College Avenue, Davie, Florida

### **Calendar of Events**

**July 26th – August 2nd 2004 – 16th World Bromeliad Conference** hosted by the Bromeliad Society International and the Greater Chicago Bromeliad Society Westin O' Hare Hotel in Rosemont (Chicago), IL.

**November 7th – 9th 2003 – Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's Standard BSI show and sale.**

Judging Nov. 7th show and sale open to the public Nov. 8th, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. , Nov. 9th 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Terry Park, 3410 Palm Beach Blvd, Ft Myers, Fl contact Larry Giroux (239) 997-2237 or Brian Weber (239) 591-4268

**November 15th 2003** - Bromeliad Extravaganza will be held at the Miccosukee Indian Hotel in Miami, a one day sale and auction.

## President's message



We had a wonderful meeting playing bingo. Thanks to Richard, everyone says they had fun. Some even got to win good plants and we had a good turnout.

Please welcome new member Harriot Abo.

Watch your plants because with all of the rain we've had we may get some rotting. I've been dumping mine each day if possible.

The Florida council of Bromeliad Societies is having their annual "Extravaganza" Saturday, November 15th at the Miccosukee Resort and Gaming Casino in Miami, (Corner of Krome Ave and Southwest 8th St.) starting at about 9 AM. Seminars, speakers, plant sales, a big plant auction and a banquet are on tap. More details to follow. It's a great event and somewhat close to us. Plan to come, you'll enjoy.

The Best Always  
Good Growing,  
Polly

## **Believe It or Not**

**By: John Catlan, From Bromlink #5 2001**

### **Why should growers consider the first pup the best?**

In humans historically the age of maturity is 21, although in those times males stopped growing around 16 or 17 and females a year earlier depending on diet. The modern man is 17 or 18 for males and a year earlier for females. The age of maturity was pegged at 21. This allowed a fighting soldier when he stopped growing four or five years to put on bulk and muscle and be trained. He then could remain quick (and alive) while using offensive and defensive weapons for the length of the battle.

If we accept 21 years for a human to reach their peak and for argument sake, we pegged 21 months as a suitable time for producing a mature Neoregelia (Show not Sale). The varieties of Neoregelias that are large, that is in excess of one metre across, take over two years say 33 months to reach the maturity we are discussing. Accepting this as a starting point, read on and think.

### **MOTHER NEOREGELIAS AND FLOWERING**

Increased day length is usually the accepted trigger that initiates the flowering of Neoregelias. The hormone that produces growth at that growing center stops and a hormone that produces flowering takes over. The growth hormone that was concentrated at the growing center of the Neoregelia is distributed throughout the plant and within days triggers a growth eye and a pup is being formed (usually two at a time). Also consider that to get good color in Neoregelias you are helped by cool nights, warm days and low nitrogen levels. For the sake of the argument, we will select August the first (March in the Northern Hemisphere) as the day that flowering is initiated. By this date, day length is obviously increasing and we have warm days and cold nights.

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In the next three months, the potting mix is warmed up, soil bacteria die and break down in increased numbers making the fertilizer (their decomposing bodies) readily available to the Neoregelias. (Keep in mind the initial build up of bacteria reduces nitrogen as it is tied up within the bodies of the increasing number of soil bacteria.) This increased availability of fertilizer is then used by the Neoregelia to finish the growth of the existing leaves and finish off the flower



At the home of Ann Schandlemeyer  
*Billbergia kyoto*

# New Members

Larry Searle  
Searle Nursery  
6640 SW 172nd Ave.  
Southwest Ranches, FL 33330  
954-434-7681

Larry Davis  
4808 SW 120th Ave.  
Cooper City, FL 33330  
954-434-8466

Harriet Abo  
7221 NW 16th St. #C252  
Plantation, FL 33313  
954-791-6213

## **“Blooming Bromeliads“ Book is still missing!!!!**

It was checked out 2 months ago - please return it asap or call Polly and let her know you have it. It is very important that we have record of all books coming in and out- we have an extensive library and keeping track is key, so please, whoever has it get in contact with Polly.



Name Tag Winner  
Lillian Redlich  
Vr retropolitana x  
Vr gemma



Bonus Plant Winners  
Jeff Koker and Kevin Gale.  
Neo Caribbean Sunset X Planters Punch



## Bingo Night

Richard Sedlak's quick wit was entertaining. Bingo for bromeliads was very exciting, Richard was calling the numbers and everyone was involved. Lots of winners and lots of bromeliads were awarded as prizes. Many of which were from Tropiflora.



## **Editors Note**

Hello Again,

Missed you all at the last meeting, however, I'm back!

I urge all of you to make your best efforts not miss the next meeting... Dennis always brings the most beautiful plants, unusual and priced to sell.

We need volunteers!!! Again, Polly is asking for your help at the meetings - clean up, refreshments table, the library, so can you please see her at the next meeting. We would greatly appreciate it!

I would like to give kudos to the Scurf photographer The pictures are wonderful and always tell us a story.

Happy Growing,  
Colleen Cope  
Editor

## **Members Sale Table**

Any of you wishing to share your creative side and make a few bucks, please bring your plants, crafts any thing that has to do with bromeliads to the sale table.

20% of the sales goes to the Broward County Bromeliad Society to support our club.

Please see Bud Hendrix if you have any questions about selling your plants.



Billbergia Kyoto compliments of Ann Schandlemeyer



Billbergia stenopetala  
compliments of Griff and Anne Bancroft  
Bancroft

## Reminders

September's birthdays bring goodies

## Announcements

We are looking into ordering Golf shirts with our insignia.  
Anyone interested in ordering one please see Colleen or  
Tim

### **New Advertising Page**

Please don't forget to advertise in the Scurf  
Only \$10.00 per month for 1/4 page !!!!!!!

### We want your garden story!

Including pictures (If possible). Participa-  
tion in The Scurf is welcome. We would  
like to have a special interest section dedi-  
cated specifically for our members in order  
to share and enjoy each others own per-  
sonal backyard of treasures.

E-Mail your backyard fun to:

**[Timbo-169@comcast.net](mailto:Timbo-169@comcast.net)**

Or submit to the editor at meeting !