

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

SCURF

SEPTEMBER 2014

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/



**Androlaechmea 'Paradise',
spike measures 22"**

Image courtesy Gayle Spinell-Gellers

2014 Officers, Directors, and Chairpersons

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

Officers:

President	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Vice President	Larry Davis	954-434-8466
Treasurer-Interim	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
Recording Secretary		
Corresponding Secretary	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367

Directors:

3 year	Bruce Zaret	bruce4art@aol.com
2 year	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
1 year	Shirley Konefal	954-922-5582

Committee Chairpersons:

Country Store	Bill David	954-321-9229
Librarian	Tracy Moulton	954-864-9776
Membership	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
	Marcia David	954-321-9229
Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229
Plant Sale Table	Bill David	954-321-9229
Publicity	Sara Donayre	964-925-5112
Raffle/Ticket Sales	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466

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, and a Country Store with selected bromeliad and gardening supplies.

We meet the third Monday of every month except January and February.

Affiliations: BSBC supports



The President's Message

Summer is over or is it? Those of us in Florida are waiting for Halloween and a 5 degree drop in temperature. Bromeliads don't seem to mind. Zone 10 is their favorite growing area. Plant sale season is cranking up and our Society will be a part of it.



Have you noticed all those new pups your bromeliads have been producing? Wondering what to do with them? Want to add to your Bromeliad collection? Want to know how to get rid of those invasions of snails, walking lizards, unusual large green and yellow lizards? Our September meeting and October events are around the corner and your Board is giving you advanced notice of solutions for all of these questions.

For our September meeting; have you been freezing those garden pests for our speaker, Dr. Bill Kerns? I've been trying to trap that walking brown lizard in my pool and the lime green and yellow striped laaarrgge yard lizard who thinks he's my best friend while he's enjoying my bromeliads and orchids. But I do have a snail and I will be bringing it frozen with me to Monday's meeting. Just call me the SNAIL HUNTER. There will be a plant for the member or guest who brings in the most unusual pest. Don't miss the event.

For October, we have 3 great events for you -

October 5th, Sunday - Our member, **Larry Searle's Palm Nursery** plant sale. Don't let the company name fool you. This is Larry's annual celebrated plant sales event. He, his dad, and brother, Jeff, will have collected hundreds of plants for your garden - and there will also be as many bromeliads to add to your collection. More than 500 bromeliads, 300 types of crotons, 500 types of palms and thousands of decorative plants and ground cover will be on sale. Fifteen (15) acres of greenhouses of bromeliads, palms, crotons, and decorative plants plus outside plants and trees. Larry has also invited our Society's members to enjoy a free barbeque lunch from 11 am to 2 pm. He has asked for an expected number of our members who plan to attend. I will be asking at our meeting next Monday night.

How to get there - I-75 to Griffin West, west to S. W. 172nd Avenue, left (south) on S. W. 172nd Avenue, drive less than 2 miles to Searle's Nursery on your left. Park along the roadside and enter the nursery through the road. Address:

6640 S. W. 172nd Avenue, Southwest Ranches.

October 18 & 19th, Saturday & Sunday - **Plantation's Historical Society's Heritage Park Plant Affair** at the corner of Fig Tree Ln and Peters Rd in Plantation. Our Society will be participating in this plant sale for our members who would like to benefit from their "hard" work and want to enjoy their plant sales profits or buy more unusual bromeliads. Our dedicated³ members will be setting up on Friday afternoon to sell our bromeliads. If you have bromeliads to

sell, join us. We are asking you to dedicate time for your set up and a 4 hour shift during the two day event.

October 20th - Monday - Deicke Auditorium - our annual PLANT AUCTION meeting with hundreds of unusual bromeliads, art, a beautiful peacock glass blown platter, and other plant items donated by our members and plant vendors. You certainly will enjoy our auctioneer, **Peter Kouchalakos**, from last year. This is our largest fundraiser and one of the best times to buy not only unusual bromeliads for your collection ,but gifts for the holiday season. Don't miss it.



Good company, good food, good program and plenty of plants - come see what's going on -
Becky

BSBC Vice-President Ramblings



Hi, Gang - - just my monthly update on our speakers - - busy time this month. Harriet and I are just back from a fun vacation - - several days in Mount Dora, Florida's Antique center also Florida's center for odd-ball assortments of things we don't need, but buy anyway. Harriet bought a "NO" button and I picked up 3 signs that made me smile. Spent a day in the Ocala National Forest where we actually saw a black bear and a day at Satellite Beach, where I told Harriet that you can't starve at a beach because of the sand, which is there.

Back to broms - - Our speaker this month is Dr. William (Bill) Kern, Jr. from the University of Florida, Extension and Education Program. He will tell us how to battle all those nasty critters that chow down on our bromeliads or in other ways make our garden chores more difficult.

He has asked us to guide him on the types of snails or other pests that "bug" us and our plants - - just pick up that snail, or other critter, drop him into a zip-lock bag and store him in your freezer. Harriet made a specific area for our bags: I guess to protect our ice cream.

A neat way to see if you have snails is to take off the bottom leaf and check for tiny, black, gooey eggs at the very bottom of the leaf. This means you have had a visitor. In larger plants, the culprit may be still there at the leaf base of a higher leaf . He doesn't bite and he's much faster than you think.

Now none of us confess to having snails, but crap happens. You pick up a plant from someone else's garden - - you get a visitor from a neighbor's garden - - some furry or feathered friend visits and leaves some eggs or adults.

Now, to protect the innocent - - DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON YOUR ZIP-LOCK. We will have a marked pot in the back of the room. Drop your bag or bags in when no-one is looking.

Remember that on October 20, we will have our annual auction - - a super way to pick up that super or rare plant that you really deserve to have and if you haven't been to an auction run by Peter Kouchalakos, you will be amazed at his humor, plant knowledge, and his ability to charm you into paying more than you planned for that wonderful new plant. Please get there early to get registered to play.

November 17, will be the day to learn about the large, beautiful foliage Vreiseas. Your expert speaker will be Dave Johnston from Bromeliads Galore, www.bromeliadsgalore.com.

BTW - - the Sales, Raffle and Buffet tables will be open at 6:30.

Larry

Membership News

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P
T



Denise Addison
Sandi Block-Brezner
Bill Frazel
Martha Gregory
Susan Gutman

Lisa Ivers
Miquel Nicolas
Jeff Price
Jerry Ryan
Kenny Keesahai

Membership News

Correction!

The visit to **Larry Searle's** will be on
Sunday, October 5, 2014
Barbeque between 11 and 2



SCURF Feature

August Mystery Plant Identified



Anana comossus

Win a raffle sheet with 20 tickets....

Be the first to email the SCURF editor at yroftiger@aol.com with the correct name of this brom



Website Updated

Our website located at <http://bromeliadsocietybc.com> has been updated again. We now have the Garden Fest 2014 video posted under the tab with the same name and four garden tours online and ready for viewing under the Multimedia tab. Many thanks again to Glorinda Chernoff, Tracy Moulton, Ann Schandelmayer, and Larry Davis for allowing us to take pix at their homes. Additional photos have been added to the Home Page slide show as well.

If by chance you are not accessing the new site but rather the older version, clear your browser cache and search history, then re-enter the web address and you should be good to go.

More Membership News

Our next meeting: Monday, Sept. 15, 2014 at 6:30 pm
Deicke Auditorium, 5701 Cypress Road, Plantation, FL

Guest Speaker



Dr. William Kern, Jr.

Struggling with garden pests? You have got to join us for Dr. Kern's upcoming presentation on how to rid our gardens of these pesky critters.

Dr. Kern is an Associate Professor of Entomology at Univ. of Florida's Ft. Lauderdale Research Center. He holds Bachelor's and Master's in Life Sciences from Indiana State University and a Ph.D. from UF. Author of four books and many articles, Dr. Kern currently teaches Biology and Pest management at the Research Center and trains research center personnel in pest management.

Found a snail burrowed in a favorite brom? Capture, bag and freeze it and bring it in for Dr. Kern to identify.

There will be a Raffle Table at this meeting and the Country Store will be open. Count on another great plant auction!

"DIAPER YOUR PLANTS"

Please diaper the plants that you bring in by using a paper sleeve or a plastic bag to cover the bottom of the plant.

We want to make a good impression and keep the recently renovated Deicke Auditorium as clean as when we got there. Thank you!!!

Info Fun Friendship Plants Food

Harriet's Hoots

Happy September, Everyone..... Hope you all had a great summer.

In my last article I mentioned that Larry and I were going on a little vacation to Mt. Dora. We did and it was "*Great*" as Tony the Tiger says. (You all remember Tony the Tiger, don't you? He is the mascot on Kellogg's Frosted Flakes (hahaha) .

We had a wonderful time. Mt. Dora is a charming one-hundred plus year old historic village in the heart of Central Florida. The historic downtown is a wide array of shopping, dining, lodging, activities and entertainment. (Do I sound like a travel agent?) People were very friendly. We had some wonderful meals and saw two fabulous shows.

First was a dinner show with Petrina the British Bombshell. She was terrific. Singing, stories and lots of audience participation. She even danced with one or two gentleman. Can you guess who one of them was? Hint, hint— he is your Vice President. No, not Joe Biden (lol) but the famous and gregarious Larry Davis. The other show was a musical "So this is Broadway" with performers who sang and danced. It was very enjoyable.

We also went to the famous Renniger's Antique Center. Wow! That was something. After Mt. Dora we went into Ocala National Forest and guess what - we saw a bear. Not a very big bear, but it was a bear. It was crossing the road as we were driving. Very exciting. Well, I'd better stop bragging about Mt. Dora, but it is worth going to visit.

Ok, now back to the present and my thanks to the following members for their culinary contributions.

Becky Blackwood - - Platter of Nacho's (Yummy)
Carol Mordas - - - Peppermint Puff Mints (Very refreshing)
Shirley Konefal - - Shrimp and Pasta Dish (Just love it)
Harry Sperling - - Pumpkin Nut Cake (Delish as always)
Vlene Smith-Myrie - - Jamaica & Beef Patties (Great choice)
Susan Halliwell-Mather - - Chocolate Chunk Cookies (Our sweet treat)
Molly Lesnick - - Blueberry Crumble Cake w/Pineapple Pecans (Fabulous)
Eddi Yi - - Guacamole w/Chips and Korean Pickles (Very good)
Patty Zicarelli - - Pasta Salad & Tomato Mozzarella (Really Good)
Gayle Spinell-Gellers - - Watermelon Salad (Nice)

Ok, bye for now - - see you all at the next meeting - - Hugs, Harriet



HELP WANTED

The Bromeliad Society of Broward County's Executive Board is seeking volunteers for the following positions:



Recording Secretary

Membership Co-Chairman

Fundraising Chairman

An organization cannot succeed without the shared involvement of its members. We are asking for individuals who can donate no more than 6 hours a month (in some months, even less) to our organization to share the business responsibilities of our Society.

Computer knowledge and access is required. If you are yearning for a distracting outside activity from your job; a position to make your retirement more interesting or just love bromeliads and want to be in on the ground floor, WE NEED YOU DESPERATELY.

WE PROMISE NOT TO REQUIRE YOU TO SERVE MORE THAN ONE TERM OR TO OVERBURDEN YOU WITH WORK, BUT WE DO NEED HELP AND MORE GOOD IDEAS.

If the criteria listed above describes you, call

Becky Blackwood at 954-791-8017

or

e-mail cblackwood@bellsouth.net



From the Editor

As Becky mentioned in her message, plants are certainly pupping. My *Aechmea delmar* had already produced two nice pups so I figured that was good and the limit of what to expect. Never give up hope.... The same mother plant just produced seven more pups. This is somewhat historic in terms of my fledgling bromeliad gardening experience. Five of the seven are looking solid after two weeks. The two remaining plants appear to have adjustment issues. On went the ceiling fan, careful watering and a turn of the respective pots. The frogs seemed to have gotten the message to move out, the lizards not so much and we have struggled to redirect the four-legged bushy-tailed terrace traffic with mixed results. These squirrels are assertive, messy little creatures. Apparently they don't like little white plastic plant labels..... So far, we have one frozen snail specimen for Monday night's meeting. We will see how things go today as we perform another garden walk through. Kudos to UF for their work on eradicating giant African land snails which threaten 500 species of plants!!! [Click here to read the article.](#)

The *Androlaechmea* on the cover was a total surprise. Day after day, we parked the car in the same spot on the driveway. Things were status quo in the nearby garden. It should be apparent that my expectations are rather low.... Keeping things green and alive is the mission. Getting things to bloom and pup is seen as a bonus. Then, from out of the jungle of probably too many plants being put together, a 22" inflorescence appears. Wish I could say that I did something to foster such a beautiful bloom but alas, other than planting the plant in the first place, I did nothing. Mother Nature did it all. She has my back.

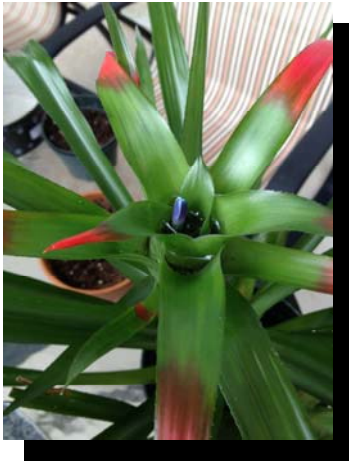
If joining this club has done anything, it has certainly expanded my knowledge and horizons. We have had speakers talk about tillandsias and Ann Schandelmayer says it is her favorite plant, so I hit Pinterest on the web a few days ago and a sheer mountain of images and mounting options for tillandsias filled the screen within seconds. Pretty little blooms in many cases, easy to grow, no thorns... could be a good choice to introduce to kids. A new vendor at Festival Flea Market by the way sells tillandsias in artistic glass containers and they were doing a brisk business.

Happy gardening,

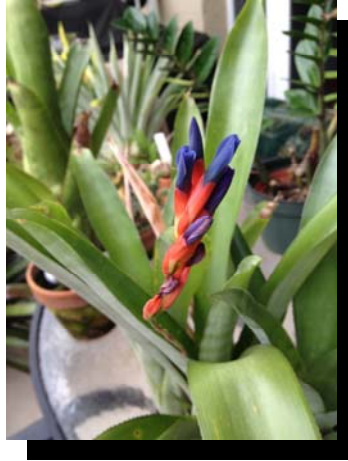


Gayle

From Our Education Chair



Nidularium angustifolium
as seen at
our August meeting



Quezalia lateralis

The deep blue flowers contrasted against the red bracts only last a week. The inflorescence of this plant comes out centrally from the plant. As the clone matures the inflorescence may appear from the bottom of the plant, hence the term lateralis.



Don't see many Puya in bloom.
This **Puya mirabilis** was grown
by Lee Magnuson; photos by BZ.



Close up of the stamen and
pistil of the flower.



Billbergia pyramidalis

While this a common plant, it has an exceptionally nice inflorescence. Close inspection reveals the beautiful contrast between the purple pistil and the yellow anthers.

Items courtesy of Josie Rivera-Abdo:

A good article about broms to check out online:

<http://www.south-florida-plant-guide.com/bromeliad.html>

Want to give growing broms from seed a try? Check out these two sites.

http://www.bsi.org/brom_info/growing/seed-ja.html

<http://www.bsi.org/services/seedfund.html>

Although the site is dated 2012, BSI has advised that the seeds listed are available. Just email brykool69@yahoo.com and pay via Paypal.

Calendar of Local Plant Society Meetings

1st Tuesday	Plantation Orchid Society	Volunteer Park
2nd Friday	Ft. Lauderdale Garden Club	Birch State Park
2nd Monday	BSBC Board Meeting	Deicke Auditorium
3rd Monday	Bromeliad Society of Broward County	Deicke Auditorium
3rd Tuesday	Bromeliad Society of So. Florida	Fairchild Gardens
3rd Wednesday	Equality Park Garden Club	Pride Center
3rd Wednesday	Plantation Garden Club 9:30 am—noon	El Dorado Community Center
3rd Thursday	Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches	Mounts Botanical
3rd Thursday	Shade Brigade (no meetings July & Aug.)	Plantation Bldg. Dept.

Places to Go, Things to See

Sept. 13-14	Shady Plant Affair		Mounts Botanical West Palm Beach
Sept. 20	Open Gardens and Plant Sale	9-3	Tropical Ranch Botanical Gardens 1905 SW Ranch Trail, Stuart
Sept. 20	Orange County Master Gardener Fall Plant and Garden Festival		Extension Services, 6021 S. Conway Rd., Orlando

Business

Advertise Here
\$10 per month

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Have a bromeliad question?
Email yroftiger@aol.com and
we'll ask our experts.

BSBC Country Store

The Country Store has the following items for sale at great prices!

6 in" pots _____ 5 pots for \$ 1.00
Plant Sticks ___ 50 sticks for \$1.00

Contact Bill David
@ 954-321-9229