Bromeliad Society of Broward County

SEPTEMBER 2019 SCURF

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

Hohenbergia 'stellata'

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

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President	Richard Sedlak	954-296-5633
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Country Store	Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516
Librarian	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
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	Eric Petrusha	954-647-8548
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466

Interested in Learning More?

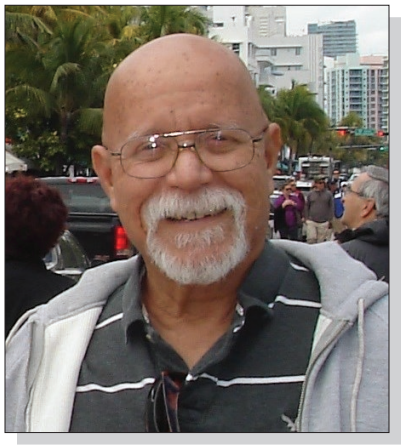
Our monthly meetings generally offer a guest speaker on timely and noteworthy topics, member plant sales, a plant raffle, special holiday plant auctions, diagnosis of disease and pest problems, and a Country Store with selected bromeliad and gardening supplies.

We meet the third Monday of every month (except January and February) starting at 6:30 at:

Deicke Auditorium
5701 Cypress Road
Plantation, FL 33317

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

President's Message



For those members who were at last month's meeting, you may recall that Richard was absent. We've learned that he as been in and out of the hospital for the past 2 months and unfortunately won't be able to attend this month's meeting as well.

About two months ago, he started to have uncontrollable hiccups. His doctors have tried two different medications in order to control them, but it seems to have made matters worse for him rather than improve them.

Please keep Richard in your thoughts and prayers and reach out to let him know you are thinking about him. The family has asked that you not call since it's difficult for him to talk, but you can text him your well wishes or you can send cards to his home address at 103 NE 30th Ct., Wilton Manors, Fl 33334. You can reach out to any of the BSBC Board members listed on the front page to get Richard's cell number or simply ask Eric Petrusha at this month's meeting.

This month's meeting is Monday Sept. 16, 6:30 pm at Deicke Auditorium

Our Guest Speaker This Month is Inese Bunch

This month's guest speaker is Inese Bunch, founder and beekeeper of Bunch Farms, LLC . She was born in Latvia and comes from a long family tradition of farming.

She came to the USA in June 2007. After graduating from Florida International University in the Spring of 2011 with her Bachelors Degree, she decided to pursue her family tradition of farming in the USA.

Inese made a decision to start a honey bee farm with a mission of becoming a source of local raw honey to the community. **Bunch Farms** started with just a few honey bee colonies and lots of determination to grow and produce the Best Honey in Miami! It was challenging at first and it took many stings to learn how to work with honey bees without accidentally harming them.

Inese will be bringing several varieties of her award winning honey for sale to our members so don't miss her fascinating story and journey. It's sure to be a "sweet" presentation!

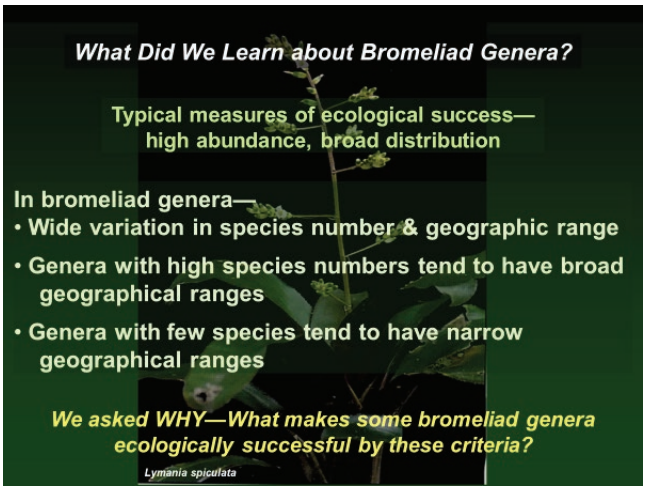
The Member Sales and Silent Auction Tables will be OPEN

Last Month's Meeting

Last month's speaker was none other than Dr. Terrie Bert. Her choice of topic this time centered around her research into the distribution and abundance of bromeliads around the world and the relationship between genera in hopes of understanding what makes some species and genera thrive in their natural setting.

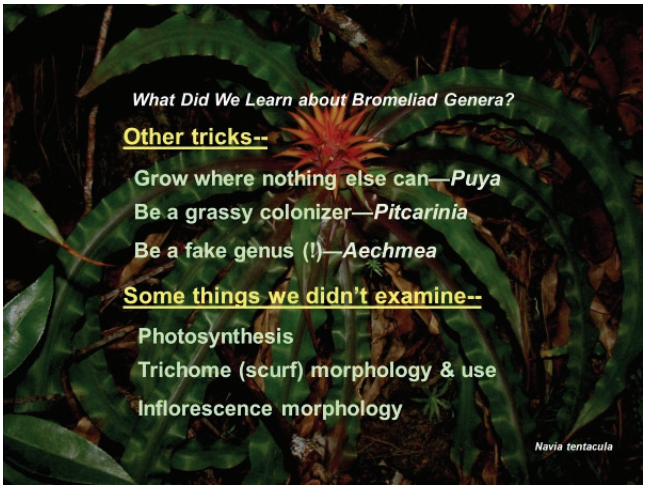
Her data-driven approach takes into account the variations in each species and the role those variations play combined with natural effects of climate, soil conditions and numerous other factors to allow a genera to thrive and become more diverse.

Here is brief excerpt from her research ...'Bromeliad genera differ greatly in their geographical distribution and number of species. For example, the genus Tillandsia has about 700 species and, collectively, Tillandsia species range from the southern USA to southern Argentina and throughout the Caribbean islands. Pitcairnia has more than 400 species and ranges almost as extensively. In contrast, more than half of all bromeliad genera have 10 or fewer species; and about 25% of all bromeliad genera are composed of only one or two species. Many of these genera have very limited ranges.'



Her depth of research into the relationships between diversity, geographical range and other factors was very thorough and had interesting results that you might not think would be the case. Dr. Bert's data and the insightful results are more in depth than we can explain or cover in this recap and without her expertise.

If you'd like to get a complete copy of her latest research paper, she says it will be available in the next issue of the FCBS Newsletter.



Dr. Bert and some of her hybrids

As usual, Dr. Bert brought many of her own hybrids to sell which required little data analysis!

We are grateful for her devotion to the bromeliad family of plants and can't wait to see what she does next!

Members reviewing the Raffle Table

Rumor has it that the Country Store has some new items this month

Our gracious Greeters Judith Lahey and Susan Mather are always on hand to answer any questions our members have

Harriett hasn't aged a bit as this older photo proves and Larry's smile really shines through even without the hat!

These are just a few of the smiling faces that you'll see each month and every one is an experienced grower. Feel free to pull them aside and pick their brains if you need help with your collection or just want to get to know them better.

Brad's Neo. 'concentrica' (*right*) was back for a return visit. He and his daughter Bria shared it during their vermicomposting presentation in June. It produced six pups months earlier which became Raffle Table plants. Six new ones were removed during the June presentation and now two months later, it has eight more perfectly spiraled pups. That's 20 pups off a single plant! If you won one of these offspring this year on our Raffle Table, you're in for a treat! *#loveworms*

Brad's Neoregelia 'concetrica'

We may be a small club, but we have plenty of talent among our members and each has something to share that will enhance your collection and help you succeed in your garden.

September Birthdays

Denise Addison

Susan Gutman

Bill Frazel

Gardening For Millennials – Learn Why Millennials Love Gardening

Do millennials garden? They do. Millennials have a reputation for spending time on their computers, not in their backyards. But according to the National Gardening Survey in 2016, over 80 percent of the 6 million people who took up gardening the prior year were millennials. **Read on** for more information about the millennial garden trend and why millennials love gardening.

Support Local Businesses

THE NATURE COLLECTION
Bromeliads, Tropicals, and
Driftwood Creations
SHIRLEY and RICHARD KONEFAL
www.thenaturecollection.com
grillskonefal@aol.com

Got a business you would like to advertise?

Ads in the SCURF are $50 for 6 months, $100 for 12 months
Contact Becky Blackwood if interested

From The Editor

To say that Florida dodged a bullet with Dorian is an understatement. The areas in the Bahamas that have been devastated will take decades to rebuild. Much like Florida experienced with Andrew, some areas will never be the same; others will come back even stronger with improved infrastructure and building codes that will allow it to ride out future storms.

As I watched the weather reports, I could only think about the people on those islands and what horrible conditions they must be experiencing as the storm parked itself over them for days. The images seen afterwards were surreal and unimaginable.

Posted on Facebook. Kinda sums it up!

Many of us have been to the islands and have experienced the serenity the sand and sunsets offer as well as the hospitality of the Bahamian people. If you haven't donated supplies or volunteered yet, there's still time and more need than we can imagine. As the roads, bridges, and buildings are repaired or replaced, life will start to return to normal for most of the islanders.

When you see the images and videos of the debris, what you don't see are plants. Trees were snapped or stripped of all leaves and any left standing will likely die from the saltwater intrusion which they were submerged in for days. That's when I went online to locate a bromeliad society in the islands and I found a contact in Miami. While gardening isn't their biggest challenge at the moment, no rebuild will be complete without plants. They will help with the healing that the island and it's people certainly need.

So in the coming months I'm going to follow up on the leads I've found. If you have any contacts there, by all means share them with me. I'm also going to reach out to the other bromeliad societies in FL as well as the major growers who regularly sell to that region and are familiar with restrictions on plant imports.

I primarily want to help the individual collectors who surely lost most, if not all of their plants. I don't have a large collection (yet), but by next summer I hope to have nearly two hundred more. My plan is to purge my collection at that time and donate all that I can to help repopulate the gardens and landscapes of people who love and need them as much as I do.

As I said in my email after the storm, imagine you and your family going through this horrific storm. What would it mean to you after you've rebuilt your home to have volunteers show up from a bromeliad society outside your region with free plants and labor to help you recreate something so dear to you. I know what it would mean to me and that's why I have to pay it forward. I hope you join me in this quest.

Until next time,

-Brad

Upcoming Events, Things to See

Date-Time	Event	Place
Sept. 20-21 2019	Bromeliad Extravaganza Conference/Sale	Marriott's Springhill and TownePlace Suites, Orlando FL
Sept. 21-22, 2019; Sat. 9-4; Sun.- 9-3	Exotic Plants and Orchids Sale	Mounts Botanical Garden 531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, Fl 33415
Sept. 21-22, 2019; 9:30-4:30	International Aroid Society Show and Sale	Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL 33156
Oct. 15, 2019	BSSF Fall Auction	10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156
Oct. 17-20, 2019	Golden Broms	Queensland, Australia !!!!
Oct. 19, 2019	Lantern Festival at the Morikami Gardens & Museum	4000 Morikami Park Rd. Delray Beach, FL 33446
Oct. 26-27, 2019; Sat-9-5; Sun-9-4; Setup is Friday afternoon 1-4	Plantation Historical Society's Fall Plant Sale	Heritage Park, 1100 S Fig Tree Ln, Plantation, FL 33317
Nov. 18, 2019	BSBC Fall Plant Auction	Deicke Auditorium, 7:00 PM
March 21-22, 2020 (tentative)	Annual BSSF Show	10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156
Mar. 13-15, 2020	18th Annual International Orchid Festival	Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL 33156
Apr. 4-5, 2020	Hatsume Fair Celebrating Spring at the Morikami Gardens & Museum	4000 Morikami Park Rd. Delray Beach, FL 33446
June 6-9, 2020	BSI World Conference	Hyatt Regency Sarasota, FL

Looking Ahead...

Next Meeting: Monday Oct. 14, 2019, 6:30 pm at Deicke Auditorium.

Get your plants ready for the upcoming show in Plantation and our fall auction!