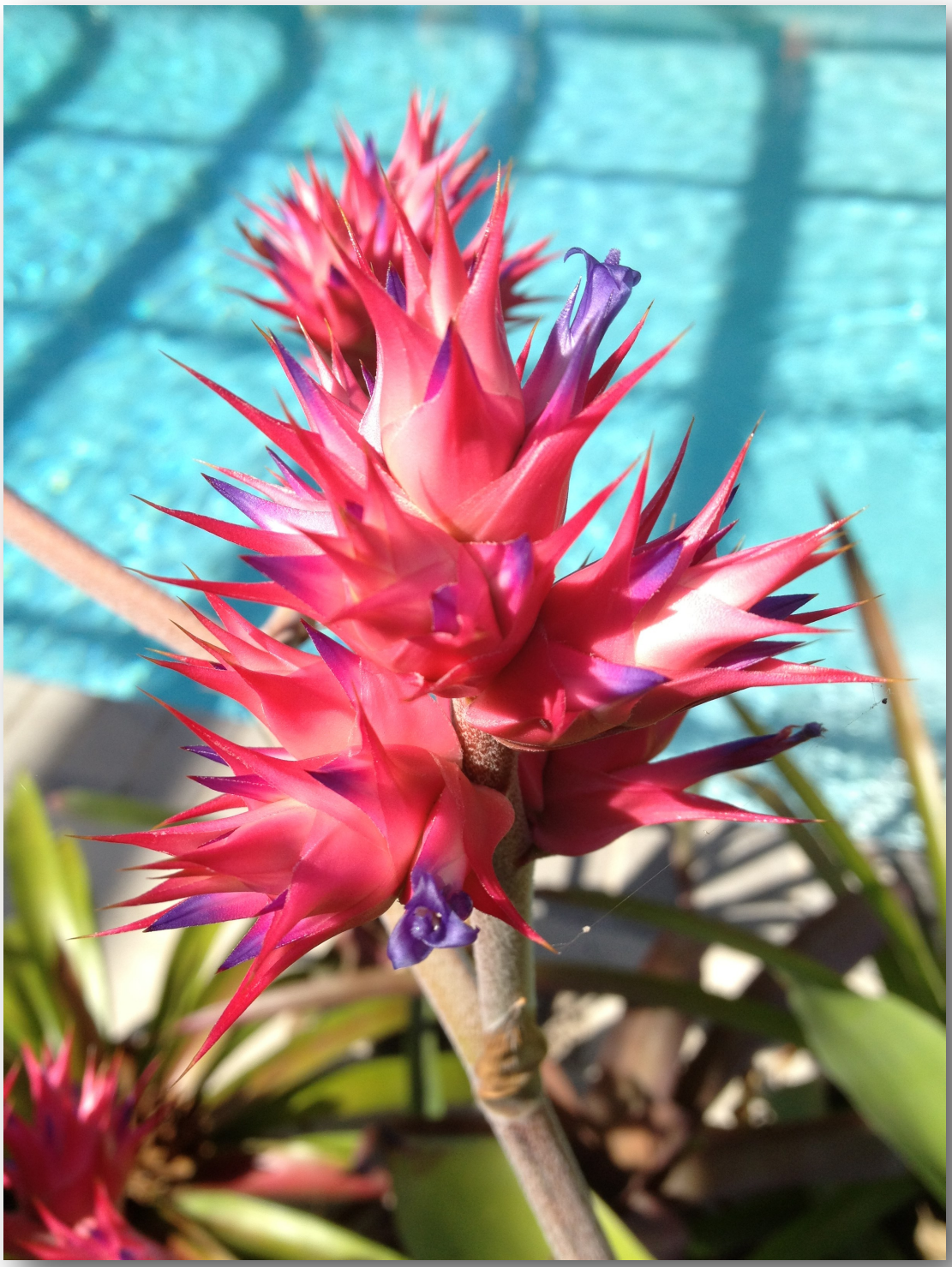
Scurf

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

December 2013



Hohenbergia stellata, courtesy of Bruce Zaret

2012– 2013 Officers, Directors, and Chairpersons

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

Officers:		
President	Colleen Hendrix	954-530-0076
Vice President		
Recording Secretary	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
Corresponding Secretary	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
Treasurer	Kenny Seesahai	954-449-3333
	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Directors:		
3 year	Marcia David	954-321-9229
2 year	Bruce Zaret	bruce4art@aol.com
1 year		
Immediate Past President	Maureen Frazel	954-474-1349
Committee Chairpersons:		
Country Store	Bill David	954-321-9229
Editor	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367
Membership	Marcia David	954-321-9229
Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229
Raffle & Refreshments	Larry Davis	954-434-8466
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466
Raffle Ticket Sales	Velene Smith-Myrie	954-736-7958
Plant Sale Table	Jim Kearns	954-434-1329
	Tim Hendrix	954-530-0076
Librarian	Tracy Moulton	954-864-9776
Webmaster	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367

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.

Affliliations: BSBC is a member of and supports

The President's Message

Season's Greetings Bromeliad Lovers,

I just can't believe how fast the year has gone and we are preparing for our end of year celebration party. PLEASE BE AWARE THIS A POTLUCK HOLIDAY PARTY – BRING YOUR "GIFT EXCHANGE PLANT" AND YOUR " COVERED DISH." Call or email Harriet with what you are bringing, so that she can coordinate the menu. I would like to thank Harriet for doing such a great job getting this together as usual. ALSO, BE EXPECTING A PHONE CALL FROM OUR PARTY COMMITTEE AS A REMINDER TO BRING FOOD AND A PLANT. PLEASE REMEMER, THE PLANT YOU BRING SHOULD BE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE YOURSELF – CLEAN, FREE OF SCALE, POTTED PROPERLY AND A BROMELIAD. I know that may sound funny that I am reiterating to bring a bromeliad, but we have had members bring something other than a brom, so please bring a bromeliad.

We have a full plate Monday evening, not only breaking bread together and the plant gift exchange but the reading of the slate of officers. I appointed Larry Davis as the nominating chair. Becky Blackwood and Bill David round out the committee. Be prepared to hear the "Slate" which is also announced in the Scurf. If there is anyone who would like to be in any of the positions listed, please call Larry Davis asap as we will also be taking nominations from the floor in January when we have our elections . Remember, if you want to nominate anyone, you must speak to that person first to make sure they are willing to take that position.

You will also be receiving a Holiday plant, YOU MUST BE A CURRENT MEMBER and YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE YOUR PLANT. You will be given a ticket to give to me at the end of the party to receive your plant.

Something new…….If you pay your dues in January, you will receive a raffle sheet as our thanks for paying early. It's a win-win for everyone!!

Lastly, as we turn the corner to the new year, Garden Fest is around that corner March 22 & 23, 2014. I will be bringing postcards and posters to the meeting. I NEED EVERYONE'S HELP IN ADVERTISING THIS EVENT. This is a BSBC event and it is growing by leaps and bounds and sending out the postcard via email or taking them around to garden shows is always appreciated.

Well, that is it for now. I really hope to see you Monday. We always have a great time at the party – what a way to end the year!!!

Here's to the New Year…
Colleen

Membership News

DECEMBER

Cathy Clapp
Jon Cole
Frank Crabb
Mike Harris
Matt Hendrix
Sylvia Hill
Tracy Moulton
Geraldine Seesahai
Ken Workman
Patty Zicarelli

Images from our terrific November auction…. Our most successful to date !!!!!!!!!

Again, many thanks to Peter Kouchalakos for being a wonderful auctioneer and to all who joined in the fun event.

Voting Results: BSBC members cast their votes at our November meeting to revise our existing By-laws. The measure was defeated by a narrow margin meaning that our existing By-laws remain in effect. Accordingly, a Nominating Committee was established to address the issue of expired terms and position vacancies. Larry Davis is serving as Chair of this committee with Bill David and Becky Blackwood as committee members. At this time, the committee has obtained the following nominations:

President: Becky Blackwood
Vice President: Larry Davis
Recording Secretary: Carol Mordas
Corresponding Secretary: Gayle Spinell-Gellers
Treasurer: Kenny Seesahai
Membership chair: Marcia David
3 yr. Director: Bruce Zaret
2 yr. Director: Suzee Newman
1 yr. Director:

If you are interested in running for office or would like to submit the name of an individual who has agreed to serve on the board, commencing January 2014, please contact Larry, Bill or Becky as soon as possible so the name may be added to the January slate. We will be holding elections at our January meeting, scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2014.

December Meeting

Holiday Social

Potluck & Plant Exchange
Monday, December 16, 2013

Please arrive at 6:00pm with your dish and gift exchange plant

Time: Dining begins at 7:00pm

Where: Deicke Auditorium
5701 Cypress Rd
Plantation, FL 33317

Good friends, great food, new plants including rare and unusual bromeliads to be raffled off. You must attend the party to get your holiday plant!

Rules for the Holiday Plant Exchange

To participate your plant must be clean and free of scale, one that you would like to receive yourself as a gift. Put it in a paper bag so that it cannot be seen and bring it to the party. When you arrive at the party, if you have brought a plant, you will be given a number so you can participate in the drawing, which works like this….

1) The numbers are drawn one at a time, randomly.

2) The first number drawn selects from ALL plants on the table removed from the bag and shown to the group.

3) The next number drawn has the option of selecting an unopened bag from the table OR TAKING the plant previously selected. IF the previously selected plant is TAKEN, then that person then selects another UNOPENED plant FROM THE TABLE.

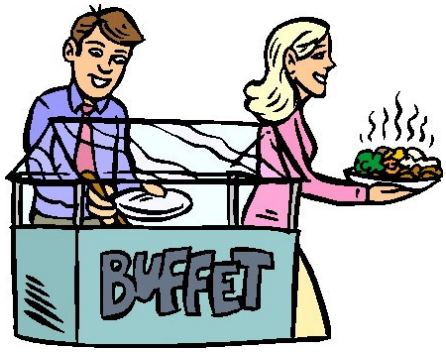
4) The last number called gets to pick from ALL previously selected plants except from anyone that has had their plant taken twice. The EXCEPTION: No one can have more than 2 plants taken from them, you get to keep the 3rd.

Special Request

WE (BSBC) ARE COLLECTING DOG AND CAT FOOD FOR
100+ ABANDONED ANIMALS OF THE EVERGLADES 501C-3
leashes, collars, crates & toys are also needed
PLEASE BRING YOUR DONATION WITH YOU.
IF YOU NEED HELP GETTING IT OUT OF YOUR CAR, WE'LL BE HAPPY TO GET IT FOR YOU!
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING OUT THESE ANGELS WITH TAILS.

Harriet's Hoots

Happy Holidays Gang – Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells (opps, I got carried away). Well, can you believe that it's almost Christmas and following that, New Years? Oh my, things are going too fast (LOL) Speaking of fast, I'm sure all those turkeys were running very fast to get away from being (you know what, axed) and speaking of turkeys, how was everyone's Thanksgiving? Larry and I had the family over. My goodness, 17 people including kids. We would have had more but a few people couldn't make it. However, it was great, lots of food (Tom Turkey never looked or tasted better) , a few games that Larry and I put together which was a lot of fun, and lots of chit-chat. All in all, Thanksgiving was wonderful.



Our next holiday is Christmas and the club is having their annual pot-luck Holiday party. Everyone is asked to bring a dish and please remember to also bring serving utensils. We need everything from appetizers, to main dishes with sides, salads and, of course, desserts (can't forget our sweets). The club will be providing the legendary Honey-baked ham. So delicious!

Our party will be Monday, Dec 16th at 6:30. However, with all the wonderful foods that will arrive, it does get hectic. So to make sure that we have enough time to place everything, please arrive between 6:00 to 6:15. That way we have plenty of time to place the food and you all can decide on where you want to sit, and no one feels rushed.

Now, back to our last meeting, which was the Auction, and which I understand went very well. I would like to thank again our wonderful members who brought "finger type food" and they are…… Carol Mordas - - Pumpkin Cranberry Bread (so good, yum, yum)
Bruce Zaret - - Chocolate Brownies (great choice)
Tracy Moulton –Oatmeal Raisin Cookies (very tasty)
Marsha & Bill David – Pizza (who doesn't like Pizza)
Sandra Block-Brezner - – Pumpkin Spice with walnuts (wonderful)
Harry Sperling – Variety of Soda (very refreshing)
Gayle Spinell-Gellers— Fudge bundt cake (a classic)
Shirley Konefal – Pizza (can't get enough of that)
Jane Von Waldvburg - - Cream Cheese Sandwiches w/olives (I loved them)
Brigitte Sheeks - - Cheese, Crackers, Fruit & Rugelach (wow – nice spread)
Elsa Snarely – Chicken Sandwiches (very tasty)
Martha Gregory – Bacon wrapped dates (they were delicious)

Well, that's it for now. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Holiday Party. Bring your dishes, a great big smile and we'll all have a wonderful time.

HUGS - Harriet

From the Editor

Leiningen had his ants, the garden goddess has her snails. Not so enchanted by this latest addition to the crescent garden. It all started with a casual walk around the plants which revealed several with holes in their leaves. Nicely shaped broms, pretty decent color, many with pups, but holes in the leaves? How will this garden ever develop into the caliber of other BSBC members who have such perfect plants? It is not easy suffering from leaf envy. A real close look revealed a culprit happily burrowed way down in a large, beautiful brom….. a not so beautiful snail camping out. A quick text to a friendly arborist followed ….. "Go out at night with a flashlight. Snails are nocturnal and you will be able to snag them right up," he wrote.

That night, armed with the family flashlight and a long-necked tongs, my trusty spouse and I took aim at the snails. Paul is such a good guy. There they were in all their munching glory. We snagged about nine, but the cost was dear. We were battle-scarred with scratches and reactions to plant sap. I had thought it was going to be a simple, quick task. My loyal sidekick was not a happy camper. Morning dawned and I confidently checked out the garden somewhat optimistically. We had to have gotten them all, right? Snails may be nocturnal but alas, nobody apparently told that to the snails at our house. Eleven more snails were taken into custody and relocated to the garbage pail where they could devour things until pick up on Wednesday. I was still trying to be charitable at this point. (While they may have done some devouring, they also climbed up to the garbage pail so opening the lid without releasing the inmates back into society became a challenge and we were not about to go thru the garbage to find them. Are these the type of snails used for escargot? What once was an occasional delicacy, no longer held appeal.

Things did not get better that night as another five snails were scooped up or clamped down on but several got away or burrowed so deep into the plant that extricating them was going to be nearly impossible. Off we went in search of some new tools….long-necked clamps with little scoops on the end, a harpoon of sorts with a hook and giant tweezers. The battlelines were drawn. Off to the web with a "kill or cure" mentality. Whatever "they" say to do, we would do in full force--- not one solution, we were going at it with several solutions at once. Suggestion One: Put diatomaceous earth around the plants. We sprinkled so much of this stuff around the plants it looked like it had snowed. Hopefully, the plants will all survive. Suggestion Two: Use soapy, salty water in small tubs. Regular salt? Kosher salt? What if it rained and the salty water, which isn't good for plants, gets washed into the soil? Ugh. Suggestion Three: Strategically place stale beer in small cups at ground level in the garden. As for the beer… imported or domestic? Do snails have a preference? Would lite beer work or should we go with the regular stuff? Are snails picky? Just how big a cup? I have virtually no experience with beer so this is really uncharted territory here. The decision? Use a series of shallow bowls large enough for several snails to hold a party---the idea being they would smell the stuff and jump right in together to mercifully and quickly become so inebriated that they would walk into traffic rather than into the leaves of treasured plants. We got it all set up. Of course, despite forecast to the contrary, it rained late that night so we had to institute beer replacement operations the next day. Thankfully, nobody was nearby with a video camera to film a You Tube segment.

Day Six dawns and there were no snails. Is this possible? Yes and no…. possible for that day, not so possible for the next. Hence, daily snail patrol has been added to the list of garden goddess duties. Next technique: hit the baking aisle for alternative ingredients like yeast, honey and water to make another snail-attack mixture. The saga continues……

Happy snail-free trails,
Gayle

Technology Alert!

Our new website is up and running. If you have bookmarked the site, just hit the refresh button and the new site will load. If you haven't already done so, here is the link:

http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com

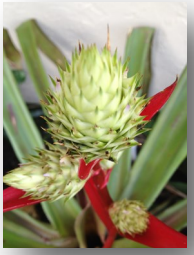
New SCURF Feature

Mystery Plant Identified

(Thanks to Becky Blackwood for suggesting this feature!)

Bruce Zaret correctly identified the plant at the right as a

Hohenbergia andina



Want to win a raffle sheet with 10 tickets?
Be the first member to email the SCURF editor at yroftiger@aol.com
with the correct name of the bromeliad featured to the right.

You Know You're Addicted to Gardening When...

Everything you touch turns to "fertilizer".

Your non-gardening spouse becomes conversant in botanical names.

You find yourself feeling leaves, flowers and trunks of trees wherever you go, even at funerals.

You dumpster-dive for discarded bulbs after commercial landscapers remove them to plant annuals.

You plan vacation trips around the locations of botanical gardens, arboreta, historic gardens, etc.

You sneak home a 7 foot Japanese Maple and wonder if your spouse will notice.

When considering your budget, plants are more important than groceries.

You always carry a shovel, bottled water and a plastic bag in your trunk as emergency tools.

From http://forums2.gardenweb.com/forums/load/peren/msg0619504510853.html ,
Anonymous

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	Plantation Community Church
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

Jan. 24—26, 2014	**6th Annual Home & Garden Show**		Orange County Convention Ctr; 9400 Universal Blvd., North Hall B, Orlando
Mar. 15-16, 2014	**A Tropical Plant Fair**	8 am—4:30 pm 10:30—3:30	Pride Center 2040 North Dixie Hwy Wilton Manors
Mar. 22- 23, 2014	**Garden Fest !!!**	9 am—5 pm 9 am—4 pm	Volunteer Park 12050 W. Sunrise Blvd. Plantation
Apr. 12—13, 2014	**Spring Garden Festival** **35th Annual Spring Plant Sale**	9:30—4:30	Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Coral Gables
Sept. 8—13, 2014	**Bromeliads in Paradise** **21st World Bromeliad Conference**		Ala Moana Hotel Honolulu, HI

Something fresh to try out….

Gardener Mark Benson's South Florida Garden Show specializing in concerns for Zone 10 on the radio every Saturday and Sunday thru the Gold Coast area.

Listen live Saturday, 8 am — 10 am on WBZT — AM 1230
WFFG — AM 1300
WKYZ — 101.7 FM
Listen live Sunday, 7 am — 9 am on WZAB —AM 880

Business

Advertise Here …….

$10 per month

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

"DIAPER YOUR PLANTS"

Please "diaper you 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 our new meeting place as clean as when we got there.

Thank you!!

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