Scurf

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

♥ February 2004 ♥

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, FEBRUARY, 16 2003, 7:30 P.M.

SPEAKER: HARRY LUTHER

"UNUSUAL AECHMEAS"

DON'T MISS THIS MEETINGS, SEE PAGE 5

Plant sales will be Open to members
Plant raffle will be held

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

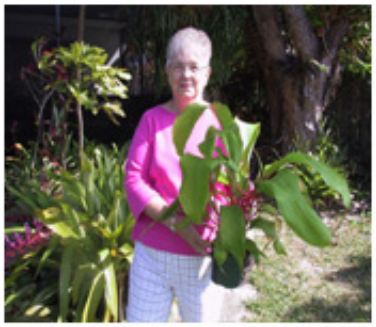
Calendar of Events for 2004-2005

April 17-18 - Heritage Park Plant Affair the BSBC will have a booth. Peters Road in Plantation, Fl. Times to follow. For more info please contact Bud Hendrix 954-583-8636 or Polly Pascal 954-962-0018

Aug 11 - 15 - 16th World Bromeliad Conference hosted by the Bromeliad Society International and the Greater Chicago Bromeliad Society Westin O' Hare Hotel in Rosemont (Chicago), IL.

March 27-28 - Leu Gardens Plant Sale
9 am - 5 pm both days-Free admission & free parking.
Location: Harry P. Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando, FL
407-246-2620 www.leugardens.orgBSCF Contact: Eloise Beach 407-886-8892 or FloridaPRO@aol.com.BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA (Orlando) and TROPIFLORA (Sarasota) will be selling lots of interesting bromeliads for collectors. Other plant societies will be selling orchids, palms, roses and lots more, plus many other vendors will be offering unusual plants and gardening supplies.

October 14-17 2005- Bromeliads XIII - Australasian Conference
The Bromeliad Society of Queensland Inc. is to host the next Australasian Conference for Bromeliads XIII in Brisbane in 2005. The Conference will be held over four days from Friday 14th October, to Monday 17th October, 2005, inclusive.
See http://www.bsq.org.au/conference.html for more information.



President's Message

Our birthday girls from last month, Pat Boone and Jean Tease did an outstanding job with the refreshments. Also thanks to Harry and Diane for their cake and coffee, everything was delicious. Tom Wolfe did a great job on his program," Landscaping with Bromeliads." Showing how us how to construct a bed of bromeliads from start to finish.
Good News...the Heritage Park Plant Affair will be held April 17th and 18th. We will have a booth so any of you that want to participate please notify Bud Hendrix asap. The nominating committee chaired by Maureen Frazel are compiling names for the openings on the board. If you are interested in holding a position please contact Maureen @ 954- 474-1349

My Best always and Happy Growing,

Polly

On The Front Cover: Tillandsias, Tillandsias and more Tillandsias

Grown By: Tim Hendrix
Photography by: Tim Hendrix

.....More about Harry Luther

Harry serves The Bromeliad Society International with distinction as director of the Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida, since the center was established in 1979. In 1994, Harry was elected an honorary trustee by the Board of Directors and his services include taxonomist, author and conservator.

His work benefits both the scientific and amateur collectors and has brought much noted credit not only to himself but also the BSI. He has created a research collection of living bromeliads of *every genus* and as many species as can be grown successfully in the environment of the gardens.

Harry's research has included successful field trips to Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Honduras, Mexico and Panama to search for new material, to re-collect lost evidence and to establish range extensions. His research findings have been published individually and in collaboration with other specialists. He has had numerous articles published in the *Journal of* The BSI but his alphabetical *List of Binomials* is probably his best known endeavor and is currently in its fourth edition.

Harry E. Luther, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, 811 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota FL 34236-7726 (BIC@bsi.org)

Thanks to Thirteenth World Bromeliad Conference "Bromeliad Roundup"

Editors Note

Happy Valentines Day

A couple of announcements I would like to mention, first membership dues will be due May 1st, you may pay in advance to Bill Frazel, also anyone that wants a BSBC members shirt please see Colleen or Tim, we will be taking orders for your size and color, however you must pay in advance, the cost is $ 25.00 and then the shirts will then be available to you at the next meeting.

The Roster is finished, *Halleluiah*. I would like to thank Matt Hendrix for constructing and typing it. You will receive the roster at the meeting Monday night, if not it will be mailed to you.

Thanks again for all the great refreshments, it's getting to be a real spread and thank you for all the help with clean up.

I would love to get an article from one of you about your garden—don't be shy, it will fit just perfect in the Scurf.

See you,

Colleen - editor

Do you need to thin out your garden???????? The Searle Brother's Nursery is looking for Aechmea blanchetiana pups to purchase or to trade for plant materiel.

Please call 954-434-7681 speak to Larry or Jeff

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THE SEASICK TILLANDSIA

By Lyman B. Smith

In tracking down the origin of names of bromeliad genera it does not take long to find out that Linnaeus named *Tillandsia* after Elias Tillands, a professor at Abo in Finland. There most references stop, but look at page 42 of an old volume with this awesome heading: Lachesis Lapponica or a Tour in Lapland, now first published from the original manuscript journal of the celebrated Linnaeus; by James Edward Smith, M. D., F. R. S. etc. President of the Linnaean Society. 1811. It reads as follows: "The greater part of my way lay near the sea shore, which was bespread with the wrecks of vessels. How many prayers, sighs and tears, vows and lamentations, all alas in vain! arose to my imagination at this melancholy spectacle. It brought to my mind the student*, who in going by sea from Stockholm to Abo had experienced so severely the terrors of the deep, that he rather chose to walk back to Stockholm through East Bothnia, Tornea, West Bothnia, &c., than trust himself again to so crud and treacherous a deity as Neptune.

*This was Tillands, afterwards Professor at Abo, who hence assumed this surname, expressive of his attachment to land, and Linnaeus named in honour of him a plant which cannot bear wet. See his Ord. Nat. 291.

The Ord. Nat. reference proves to be a paragraph in Latin giving the more definite information that Tillands chose two hundred miles by land rather than eight by sea. Linnaeus had his little joke on his seasick friend but he showed himself a poor observer, for he should have noticed that the scales of *Tillandsia* function like blotting paper and not like shingles as he evidently imagined.

[Taken from Journal of the Bromeliad Society - Volume 1, Number 4]

Taxonomy

Taxonomy (systematics) is the science of classifying plants and animals by evaluating shared features and organizing them into a hierarchy based on these relationships. The basic taxonomic units or taxa (singular: taxon) are species. Every species is given an internationally recognized two part name (binomial) by which it is known. The first part of this name is called the Genus and the second part the Species. More closely related plants within the family, which share some general/generic features, are grouped in the same genus thus the genus/species describe the taxon generically/specifically. Unlike common names which can vary from region to region, a species' binomial name is unique and precise. The name is usually derived from Latin or Greek (or a modern word that has been Latinized). Genus names are always capitalized and species names always start with a lower case letter. Species names often are descriptive (xanthocalyx - with yellow flowers), indicate a place of origin (brasiliensis - from Brasil), or are honorific, named after the collector or other person worthy of the the honor of being immortalized in the taxonomic nomenclature (fosteriana - in honor of Mulford Foster).

Family: Bromeliaceae

Bromeliads belong to the family Bromeliaceae and are members of the Class Liliopsida (monocots). Monocots comprise one quarter of all flowering plants and include some of the largest and most well known groups of plants: orchids, palms, grasses. The family Bromeliaceae is divided into three subfamilies: Pitcairnioideae, Bromelioideae and Tillandsioideae.

Thank you to BSI website, category Taxonomy

Pitcairnioideae This subfamily contains the most ancestral bromeliads and many resemble the grass family from which they evolved. Almost all are terrestrial and rely on an extensive root system for their moisture and nutrients. They are generally spiny leaved and dry capsules with small wingless seeds. **Bromelioideae** This subfamily is the most diverse containing the greatest number of genera (but the least number of species). Most species in this subfamily are epiphytic and characterized by a rosette-like form many forming a water holding tank. They generally have spiny leaves and berry like fruits containing wet seeds which are often distributed by birds and animals who consume the fruits. **Tillandsioideae** This subfamily contains very few genera but includes the most number of species. Most of the members of this subfamily are epiphytes. All have spineless leaves and their fruit is a dry capsule containing winged seeds which are usually dispersal by breezes. The feathery plumes also help the seed to adhere to a suitable epiphytic surface for germination. This subfamily is probably the most evolved with special adaptations for survival in very dry (xeric) conditions.

Genera by Subfamily Taxonomists continue to work on the bromeliad family, describing new species (and sometimes reducing an existing species to synonymy with another species). Occasionally a new genus will be described or a subgenus will be elevated to the rank of genus and other times an entire genus will disappear, incorporated into another genus. Any taxonomic listing must be viewed as the current state of the art in an ongoing process of refinement. The listing shown here follows LUTHER & SIEFF (1998) but is by no means final (much work needs to be done in the genera Aechmea, Guzmania, Tillandsia and others). Additional information about bromeliad genera can be found in AN ANNOTATED CATALOG OF THE GENERIC NAMES OF THE BROMELIACEAE by Jason R. Grant.

Announcements

On behalf of Maureen Frazel chairman for the nominating committee along with Sally Wurdack and Jose Donayre.....we would like to request your participation in being on the board The following seats are open:

President

Vice President

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer

1 Director

It does not matter how long you have been a member, if you feel you have leadership abilities and have something to offer the society please feel free to see anyone in the committee. If you need more information on the responsibilities of these positions we will be happy to answer your question.

Thank you

Members Shirts

We are ordering Golf shirts with our insignia. They will be $25.00. Please write your check to BSBC and give to Bill Frazel. Please see Colleen or Tim to order your shirt. They will be given to you at the following meeting.

Reminders

February birthdays bring goodies

Happy Birthday to…….
Gini Vyfvinkel

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). Participation in The Scurf is welcome. We would like to have a special interest section dedicated specifically for our members in order to share and enjoy each others own personal backyard of treasures.

E-Mail your backyard fun to:

Timbo-169@comcast.net

Or submit to the editor at meeting

Raffle Table Plants were provided by Jose, Polly and Ann, a special thanks goes out to them. If anyone has plants that they would like to donate to the raffle table just bring them to the meeting.

The **Bonus Plant** went to Chuck Nicholls a Neo Martin

The **Name Tag plant** went to Diane Tuttle it was a piece of art, a pineapple picture.

(Due to technical difficulties we were not able to get pictures of the winners) (forgot camera)

Library Rules

- The following library rules have been approved by the board:

- No literature valued over $100.00 can be checked out.

- If the library does not have a duplicate copy of material to be checked out, it cannot be removed from the premises.

- Out of print materials cannot be checked out.

- Your cooperation will be appreciated.