Bromeliad Society of Broward County

Scurf

February 2014

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

Our February meeting will be **Mon., Feb. 24** at 6:30 pm

Aechmea recurvata var. benrathii, courtesy of Bruce Zaret

As of right now, tickets are still available for the Ft. Lauderdale Garden Club's Mystery Tour on Feb. 22, 2014.

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	Kenny Seesahai	954-449-3333
	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Recording Secretary	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
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
Immediate Past President	Colleen Hendrix	954-530-0076

Committee Chairpersons:

Country Store	Bill David	954-321-9229
Membership	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229
Raffle	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466
Raffle Ticket Sales	Velene Smith-Myrie	954-736-7958
Plant Sale Table	Bill David	954-321-9229
	Tim Hendrix	954-530-0076
Librarian	Tracy Moulton	954-864-9776

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

Welcome!

We are beginning our new election year with CHANGES.

FIRST, I MUST REMIND YOU OUR FEBRUARY MEETING DATE HAS CHANGED TO MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2014, due to a conflict with the City of Plantation. Same time.

As the newly elected president of the Bromeliad Society of Broward County, I can assure you this will be a year of changes. Certainly, it will be difficult to follow the success of our previous, President Colleen Hendrix, but our Board and I have made a commitment to the challenges of change.

We are going to start with a survey at our February meeting to find out what we can do even better……not just bringing new information to you with our speakers, but another course in "Bromeliads 101" to help you grow your bromeliads, expanding Show and Tell to introduce you to new plants, a clinic to tell you why your plant is ailing, exceptional plant raffles, surprise raffles, garden tours with picnics and more. We will be highlighting our Board members in the Scurf so you can get to know us. Our new members will be there, too.

Congratulations to those 38 members who renewed their memberships at our January meeting. Three new members also joined. If you are an avid orchid grower with your bromeliads, you missed our January speaker, John Budree, who spoke about the integration of orchids in your bromeliad garden. John sold beautiful orchids from his greenhouse and we had a great raffle.

Our February meeting will feature Terrie Bert from Bradenton, Florida, who will speak about Bromeliads from R to W. There will be NO MEMBER SALES. Terrie will be selling unusual plants from her collection. Another terrific opportunity to add to your collection!

Lastly, don't forget our Garden Fest event on March 22 - 23. This is an opportunity to sell all those pups your happy bromeliads have been producing. We are also asking you to volunteer 4 hours on either Saturday or Sunday to sell in our Society's tent if you bring plants for sale. You will need a sale number and 2 plant sticks with your sale number and the price for each of your plants. Let our Membership Chairman Carol Mordas know if you need a number, when you sign in at our meeting. Plant sticks can be bought at our Country Store that night, too. You can also volunteer at Garden Fest by working in the Plant Holding Area.

This is just the beginning. Join us on Monday night, the 24th!

Becky Blackwood

From the Vice President

Hi, this your new Vice President - - your new "Veep" - - that stands for "Very Excited and Entertaining Player. My new responsibility will be to schedule and introduce you to our speakers for the year. I will also introduce you to the officers, committee heads, and our more active members. I have decided to relinquish my reigns on the auction - - Suzee Newman will be your new Raffle-Meister. Good luck, Suzee!

Our speaker for Monday, February 24th will be my personal favorite - - my old friend, Terrie Bert. She is dynamic, extremely knowledgeable, fun, and approachable. Terrie will be bringing along several of her plants for sale. Believe me when I tell you that Monday is bargain day. Those of you that have never seen one of Terrie's hilarious presentations, I warn you to pay attention to her slides and the little puzzlers that she hides.

I will give you a more detailed biography at the meeting - - but as a teaser, I will tell you that Terrie is a long-time member and officer of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society, the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and the Bromeliad Society International. She is a Master Judge and has presented over 100 talks locally as well as abroad. Terrie has won more awards than should be allowed. In her spare time she has earned a Ph.D. in Marine Biology and is now a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Her talk is titled, "Roaming Sequentially through the Ultimate Wonders - the "R" to "W" Bromeliads." Hmmmm - - we all know the Tillandsias and the Vrieseas, and maybe the Quesnelias - - how many more can you name? - - I found 7 more on the FCBS site - - One is a real favorite of mine— the Ursulaea tuitensis and I intend to ask Terrie whatever happened to one of my other favorites, Ronnbergia columbiana.

Our speaker on Monday, March 17, will be Diana Guidry from the Broward County Natural Resources Planning and Management Division . She has an outstanding resume and will discuss landscaping and ways to achieve the various habitat designations.

My second responsibility is to introduce the people serving you by trying to make your meeting experience a happy one - - I will introduce your board members, your committee heads and some of our more active members. This month you will be meeting Becky Blackwood, your new President - - be sure to say "Hello" to her at the meeting - - you will find her to be charming, capable, and friendly.

Meet Our President, Becky Blackwood

Becky is one of those strange birds seldom seen in South Florida. She was born and raised in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area and is still living here, less than 2 miles from where she first left to go to college.

Her love of gardening developed from her grandfather's influence; who was a general contractor in Hollywood and spent many years growing vegetables in his garden. Becky even sold his corn, tomatoes, peppers, onions and lettuce on a road side stand on Dixie Highway when she was young.

She graduated from North Miami High School. Her high school nickname was "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm." She started college at the University of Florida in Gainesville, majoring in broadcast journalism. Even had her own jazz music radio show. She got detoured along the way, married with two sons, then divorced and returned, with her two sons, to the University of Florida 19 years later to finish what she started. She graduated in the 80's in architecture and building construction management. Since then, she has experienced a construction career in commercial, residential, hospitality, nursing homes and educational facilities from design, construction management, inspection to being a building official moving from Gainesville, San Francisco, Melbourne, Orlando, Miami and finally to Fort Lauderdale. She also found an unusual job editing Space Shuttle manuals for NASA contractor, McDonnell Douglas.

Her first opportunity to put her hands back in dirt began in the 1970's to 1986 and not again until the late 1990's. A dear friend introduced her to bromeliads and she became addicted, passing her love along to her Loxtahatchee cousin, even her ex-husband. She is not affluent in the language of bromeliads. She doesn't want to mislead you by saying she knows each and every type and name of bromeliads; but she can join with those of you who love them and tell you how beautiful they are and what joy they bring to our gardens. She does have a National Wildlife Habitat designated garden mixed with bromeliads and lacking all of those Florida plants she grew up with. She shares her bromeliads, too. Her love of oil painting is only second to her love of gardening.

For the past 7 years, she has been a college professor teaching Construction Management at Everglades University in Boca Raton. When she's home, the door is always open, the house a little messy, but the hospitality is always there.

She and your Board want to hear from you, what you enjoy about Bromeliads, what you would be willing to volunteer for, what you would like to learn, what we can do to make OUR society better. Let Becky or your Board members know, talk to us at meetings or for those shy ones out there, send Becky an e-mail at cblackwood@bellsouth.net She'll be waiting to hear from you.

Membership News

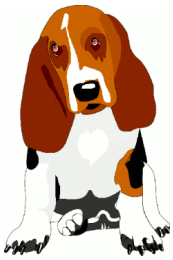
FEBRUARY

Patricia Barnes
Bob Clapp
Eleanor Grupico
Christine Pardo
Larry Searle
Steven Weisberg

Welcome New Members:

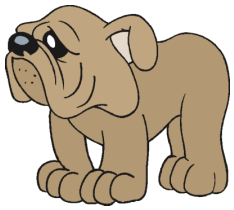
Valeria Paz

Eddie & Mariana Yi



Special Request

We (BSBC) are still 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 TO OUR NEXT MEETING.



Membership reminder!

If you renew in February, the cost will be at the 2013 rate $20 for an individual, $30 for a family. For anyone who renews or joins after February 28, the rate will be $25 for an individual and $30 for a family. We will accept, cash, check, Visa or Master Card.

Our new BSBC Home Page at

http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

We have added more photos of recent events. Plans are in the works to add a list of our library holdings, include video tours of various gardens, info on how to sell your plants at our Country Store, and how to participate in Show & Tell. We are looking into how to generate income from advertising on our site.

More Membership News

Great meeting on Jan. 23. Many thanks to John Budree for his presentation! Bromeliads and orchids together just compliment each other beautifully.

Our Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 24, 2014 at 6:30 pm

Deicke Auditorium, 5701 Cypress Road, Plantation, FL

Guest Speaker

Dr. Terrie Bert will be presenting!

In July 2012, Dr. Terrie Bert gave us a terrific presentation on Broms O & P. Now, we have a return engagement just on the horizon! On Feb. 24, she will round off the alphabet with, "Roaming Sequentially through the Ultimate Wonders— the R to W Bromeliads."

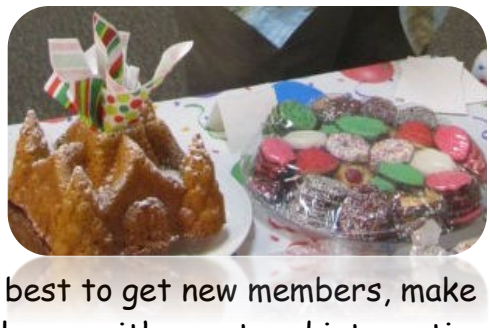
Dr. Bert will be the sole vendor at the Sales Table this month.

Yes, there will be a raffle table.
Yes, it will be another terrific evening!

Info Fun Friendship Plants Food

Harriet's Hoots

Happy Valentine's Day, Everyone….. It's the month of Love and Laughter (I just made that up – hahaha) So, send out those Valentine's Day cards and if you don't have anyone to send it to, send one to yourself and throw in a box of candy (chocolate always makes you feel better).



Well, is everyone ready for a brand new board of directors because we're coming out fighting? Going to try our best to get new members, make sure that everyone in our club knows everyone else, dazzle you with great and interesting speakers and continue on with our fantastic raffle table.

Now with that being said, we do need to keep up our energy, so needless to say I will try my best to have a great refreshment table. I'm sure that I will because you all make it so easy with the wonderful foods and desserts that you contribute. Keep it coming, gang, I do appreciate it. However, I do have a favor to ask all of you. When you bring in a dish, no matter what it is, it would help me out a lot if you can write down your name, what you brought and attach it to your food item. The reason I am asking this of you is that there are times when I get busy, and either leave the room, or I am speaking with someone else and might miss seeing you and what you brought. I do so appreciate all your efforts and I would hate to miss either giving you a food ticket or not thanking you in my monthly article. So, if you can do this little favor for me that would be great, and if you forget, just yell out at the top of your lungs - - - "Hey Harriet, Where are you?"

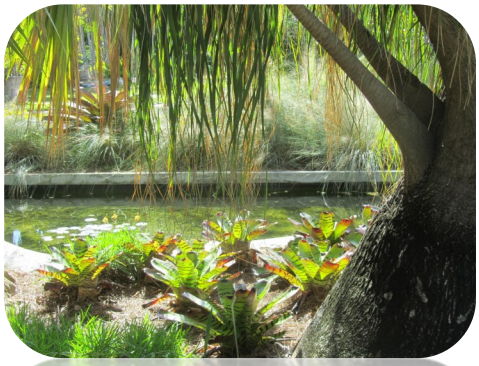
Speaking of thanking everyone, my hat goes off to the following members:
Harry Sperling - - Walnut Chocolate Cake (wonderful, just wonderful)
Shirley Konefal -- Chicken Pasta Dish (just loved it – very tasty)
Judith Lahey - - Cheese and Crackers (always a favorite)
Carol Mordas - - Carrot Cake (oh my, really good)
Suzee Newman - - Miniature Candies (chocolate is always a hit)
Tracy Moulton - - Little Hot Doggies in buns with condiments (hit the spot)
Gayle Spinell-Gellers - - Double Fudge Brownies (yummy, yummy)
Patty Zicarelli -- Cheese & Crackers with Fruit (healthy and delish)
Sandi Block-Brezner -- Cinnamon Scones (Wow, were they good !)
Peter Hartig- - Variety of Coffee Cakes (wonderful choice)
Eddie Yi - - - Asian Slaw (very tasty and delightful)
Louella Webber -- Assortment of Cookies and Fortune Cookies (very nice)

Well, I'm almost out of room, so I bid you farewell and until the next meeting……8
Hugs to everyone - - - Harriet

From the Editor

Sometimes I feel like Calamity Jane of the Plant World. Picture the infamous Crescent Garden in the front of a house as a small hill replete with bromeliads. One very large Ae. blanchetiana with a spike that happily has been blooming for two months easily, leans over onto the sidewalk. Yours truly, seeking to be a good neighbor and to keep the bloom a-blooming, climbs into the garden swathed in glasses, gloves, and a tie to pull the bloom out the way onto an existing stake. Well, the stake supporting the bloom gave way and I went flying onto the plant. It was one of those gardening moments that there was no graceful way to salvage. It took me a few minutes to figure out how to extricate myself from the plant and still hope to accomplish the mission. I had scratches everywhere with dirt to match. If you ever wondered about the resiliency of bromeliads, that Aechmea blanchetiana and its bloom, a little battered, live on. You can't make this stuff up.

In a somewhat less traumatic gardening experience, we hit the road for a first visit ever to the Miami Botanical Garden. Who knew a small, charming garden was directly across the street from the Miami Convention Center? We have been to the Center dozens of times, but never knew about the Garden. Life is good when the first plants you see as you enter a garden are bromeliads! Touring this pretty oasis of green the middle of a concrete world takes about an hour.



ALL ABOARD !!!!

How about another exciting bromeliad adventure only an hour and a half away? Thanks to Tracy Moulton for this lead to what could be a really terrific field trip. Friends of Fakahatchee are offering a new 2.5 hour Wet, Walk & Tram Tour of the Fakahatchee State Park beginning 10 a.m. on specific dates from Feb. 1—Apr. 1. The cost is $25 person and reservations are required. The Fakahatchee is known for beautiful rare orchids and giant bromeliads. Established in 1998, The Friends are hoping to build support for this park so that it can be declared protected.

ATTACHMENTS

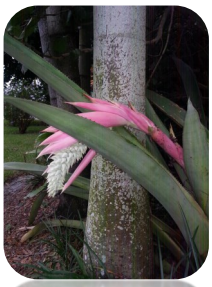
We don't want you to miss anything, so once again you will find a copy of the Bromeliana from the NY Bromeliad Society attached. Despite the cold, things are happening for bromeliads in Chicago also so we have attached a copy of that society's Jan./Feb. 2014 newsletter, too.

Enjoy it all, Gayle

New SCURF Feature

January Mystery Plant Identified

by Bruce Zaret



Ursulea mcvaughii

Want to win a raffle sheet with 20 tickets?

Be the first member to email the SCURF editor at yroftiger@aol.com with the correct name of the bromeliad featured below.

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

You'd rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothes store.

You know that Sevin is not a number.

You take every single person who enters your house on a "garden tour."

You look at your child's sandbox and see a raised bed.

You ask for tools for Christmas, Mother/Father's day, your Birthday and any other occasion you can think of.

You can't bear to thin seedlings and throw them away.

You scold total strangers who don't take care of their potted plants.

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

You walk around your neighborhood, lamenting over the condition of some gardens, wishing you could just surreptitiously plant a few broms there to perk things up.

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

Mar. 1—2, 2014	**BSSF Bromeliad Show and Sale**	9:30 am—4:30 pm	Fairchild Garden 10901 Old Cutler Rd Coral Gables
Mar. 7-9, 2014	**12th Annual International Orchid Sale**	9:30 am—4:30 pm	Fairchild Garden 10901 Old Cutler Rd Coral Gables
Mar. 15-16, 2014	**A Tropical Plant Fair**	8 am—4:30 pm 10:30 am—3:30 pm	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
Mar. 29 –30, 2014	**Tropiflora Spring Festival**		Tropiflora 3530 Tallavast Rd, Sarasota
Apr. 12—13, 2014	**Spring Garden Festival** **35th Annual Spring Plant Sale**	9:30 am—4:30 pm	Fairchild Garden Coral Gables
Apr. 18-20, 2014	**Flamingo Gardens Orchid and Bromeliad Expo & Sale**	9:30 am—4:30 pm	Flamingo Gardens 3750 S. Flamingo Rd, Davie, FL
Apr. 26—27, 2014	**Mounts Botanical Garden Springs Plant Sale**	9 am—5 pm 9 am—4 pm	Mounts Botanical Garden 559 N. Military Trail West Palm Beach, FL
Sept. 8—13, 2014	**Bromeliads in Paradise** **21st World Bromeliad Conference**		Ala Moana Hotel Honolulu, HI

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.