Scurf

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

July 2012

Aechmea star of Linda in bloom

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
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Recording Secretary	Cori Glick	954-816-2674
Corresponding Secretary	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
Treasurer	Kenny Seesahai	954-449-3333
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2 year	Bruce Zaret	bruce4art@aol.com
1 year	Carole Mordas	954-587-6036
Immediate Past President	Maureen Frazel	954-474-1349
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Editor	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367
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Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229
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Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466
Raffle Ticket Sales	Velene Smith-Myrie	954-736-7958
Plant Sale Table	Jim Kerns	954-434-1329
	Tim Hendrix	954-530-0076
Librarian	Melissa Garvey	954-472-0363
Webmaster	Matthew Hendrix	Unlisted

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.

Affiliations: Bromeliad Society of Broward County is a member of and supports

The Bromeliad Society International
http://bsi.org

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
http://fcbs.org

The Cryptanthus Society
http://www.iinet.net.au/~scrozier/Culture.html

Meetings and Speakers

At our June meeting Steve Hoppin, President of the Cryptanthus Society, gave members an overview of this unique type of bromeliad. Steve is a grower, hybridizer and noted judge. He is a big fan of Pitcairnias, mini-Neos, Dyckias and Cryptanthus.

Some basics: Cryptanthus are true terrestrials. They thrive in midsize plastic pots with a loose, porous potting mixture like African Violet mix, commercial potting soil or a mixture of peat and sand with perlite. The plants should be kept damp to foster growth. Fertilizers are not essential but do encourage growth. Guide sheets suggest using balanced fertilizers (14-14-14, 10-10-10, etc.) at as little as 1/4 strength. There are species of Cryptanthus which will grow in any light condition from low light in offices to terrariums to outdoors with full sun. Bright, diffused light, humid conditions and temps in the 60 to 85 degree range are ideal conditions.

Sounds perfect for us in South Florida!

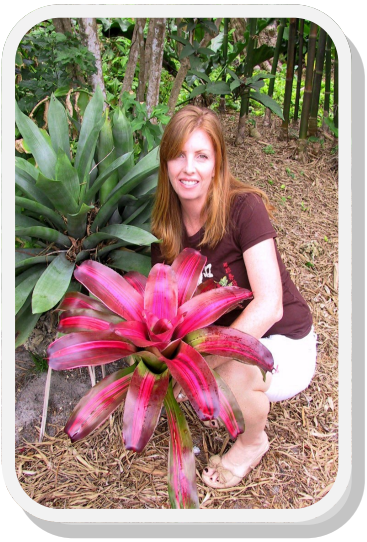
NEXT MEETING: BSBC— Dr. Terrie Bert
MONDAY, JULY 16, 2012 at 7:00 pm
Plant preview 6:30 pm
Sales table will be closed.

"The Outstandingly Ostentatious and Particularly Picturesque O & P Bromeliad Genera, Part I"

In this presentation, Terrie will talk about 5 of the 8 bromeliad genera beginning with the letters O or P (plus a bonus genus) and not commonly grown by hobbyists. For each genus, she will review the natural distribution, habitats, and growing conditions. She will also show examples of species in the genus in cultivation and in nature; describe how (if) they can be cultivated; and include interesting facts and tidbits of fun information throughout the talk. As has become her custom, there is a surprise at the end of the talk..

You don't want to miss this presentation!!

The President's Message



Hello Bromeliad Lovers,

Thanks so much for your patience last month. You may or may have not known that there was a program mix-up. Well, Steve Hoppin to the rescue!! We were able to get him at a moment's notice and I just want to thank him profusely. The program was great and I hope that it opened up a new world of bromeliad to you. We have never had a program on Cryptanthus so everything worked out perfectly. Hopefully, we can schedule him again in the beginning of the year to show how you can mount and do design with crypts. Since it will be a show year maybe some of you can branch out and show us what you got.

This month's program will be just as exciting – Dr. Terrie Bert is always a lot of fun and full of info. I have heard this program she is doing is fabulous – not to mention she always brings great plants and priced to move!

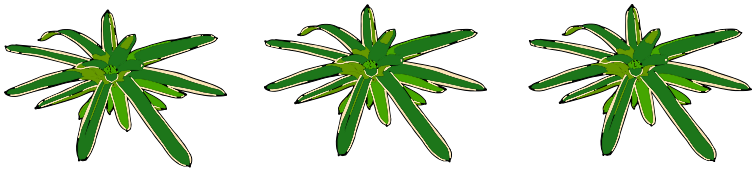
Our "Country Store" will have some new items, readymade bags of potting medium and fertilizer bags to hang in your trees. There may be a few more odds and ends to peruse.

We are renewing our subscription to "Florida Gardening" magazine at the Helen B. Hoffman Library – it is a part of our education division/community outreach and if you go to the periodical section of the library, the magazine has the clear cover on it that says Donated by the Bromeliad Society of Broward County.

Lastly, August will be our "**Pot Luck Summer Social**." Harriet will be passing around a sheet for you to write down what you will be bringing – we will have a few fun surprises too……

See you Monday! Stay Cool !!

Colleen



Calendar of Other Local Plant Society Meetings

1st Tuesday	Plantation Orchid Society	Deicke Auditorium
3rd Monday	Bromeliad Society of Broward County	Deicke Auditorium
3rd Tuesday	Bromeliad Society of So. Florida	Fairchild Gardens
3rd Thursday	Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches	Mounts Botanical
3rd Thursday	Shade Brigade (no meetings July & Aug.)	Plantation Bldg. Dept.
4th Monday	BSBC Board Meeting	Deicke Auditorium

Membership News

Please sign in when you attend a meeting so we can better track attendance.

Marcia will be at a desk in the lobby to help with membership concerns. Click here for the BSBC membership application. If you have moved or changed your email address, please be sure to give Marcia the updated information.

Editor's Note

In the last few issues of SCURF you may have noticed this one liner…

Save the date: March 23 – 24, 2013 Garden Fest Show & Sale !

Before you know it, March 2013 will be here and our own bromeliad event will be on everyone's calendar.

This Monday night we will need to vote on a name for our plant gala. Here are the three choices:

Bromeliads — love that color

Color Me Bromeliads

Bromeliads Gone Wild!

While you are thinking about which name to choose, give some thought also to becoming a mentor to a new member or members. Our greatest resource for learning about all these amazing plants is our own membership and the wealth of gardening experience we have at each meeting. The article by Larry Davis on the last page of this SCURF is a prime example of knowledge shared. Being a mentor is easy and can be a lot of fun. Be the go-to person and watch not only your own garden grow but enjoy the vicarious pleasure of watching the garden of another member thrive. If you would like a mentor or would like to be a mentor, give your name to Bruce Zaret

Happy trails,
Gayle

Harriet's Hoots

Hi Everyone:

It's mid-summer and our mango trees are overflowing with sweet delicious fruit. We have so many mangos the squirrels are calling in dinner reservations. (I don't know where they got our number). Seriously, they are stopping by so often Larry and I are thinking of renting out a room to them.

Speaking of mangos, do you all remember the Mango Crisp that Thomas Ingold brought in at our last meeting? I thought it was delish and since it was all gone before the meeting ended, I asked Thomas to send me the recipe. So for anyone who loves mangos, whether you have a tree or not, here is the recipe. Just put your apron on and start the oven. When it is done, make a cup of coffee and enjoy.

1 cup sifted flour, 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp. baking powder, ¾ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. cinnamon, 1 tsp. nutmeg, 1 egg, 1/3 cup melted butter, ½ cup chopped pecans, 4 cups of mangos, peeled and sliced.

Line buttered 8x8x2 pan with mango slices. Sift dry ingredients together and work in egg with pastry blender until consistency of coarse meal. Sprinkle over mango slices. Drizzle the melted butter over the top, followed by the chopped nuts. Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes. (Thomas used ½ cup brown sugar and ½ cup reg. sugar as he likes the taste of brown sugar)

Of course it goes without saying that our club has a bevy of good cooks as our refreshment table is always stocked with great foods and yummy deserts. Therefore I would like to thank the following members for their contribution.

Harry Sperling - - Pecan Bundt Cake (wonderful as always)
Colleen Hendrix - Cheese and Crackers (nice selection of cheeses)
Nancy Long - - Cheese Sticks (good finger food)
Thomas Ingold - - Mango Crisp (Larry loved it)
Molly Lesnick - - Fresh Cherries (another sign of summer)
Ann Schandelmayer -Mangos/Blueberries/Bananas & Brownies (so good)
Melissa Garvey – Cupcakes (always a favorite)
Patty Zuccerelli – Bean Salad and Cookies (super addition)
Tracy Moulton - Buffalo Wings (do buffalos have wing?)
Sarah Donahue – Pasta Salad with Mangos (another great use for mangos)
Shirley Konefal - Salad with Feta Cheese (hooray for healthy)
Lu Webber - - Bean Dip & Chips (always welcome)
George Henderson - - Chocolate Chip Cookies (just loved them)
Martha Gregory - - Mushroom Beef South with Rice (love hot entrees)
Norma Jean Flax – Chips (nice and crunchy)

Wow – what a spread - - keep it coming, I just love it. Ok gang, keep cool, wear your sunscreen and I'll see you all at the next meeting. **Hugs - - - Harriet**

Becky Blackwood
Dr. Norma Jeanne Flack
Jim Kerns
Marcia David
Jackie Zumwalt

For Your Reading Pleasure

Here's another good reason to get back to nature— researchers studied 2000 people and found a "50 per cent improvement in people's mental health if they were physically active in the natural environment" with forests and woodlands having the greatest impact. Take a glance at Auslan Cramb's article, " Jogging in forest twice as good as trip to gym for mental health " from the June 20, 2012 issue of *The Telegraph* .

George Henderson sent an email suggesting we take a look at the chapter on pineapples in Fruits of Warm Climates by Dr. Julia F. Morton. Though published in 1987, this 500+ page book is still considered the "bible" on the subject. There are only two copies of the book in Broward County, one in Main Library downtown and happily another copy in the reference section of our own Hoffman Library. (R 634.6 Mor) The section on pineapples begins on p. 18 and is literally jammed with interesting historical tidbits and information. Pineapples point of origin is said to be in the Parguay / Southern Brazil area with Columbus being the first to encounter them in 1493 in the Indies. The story expands from there and then to across the globe as far away as Hawaii and India. No question, Fruits of Warm Climates is a body of fine, thorough research.

The Bromeliad Society of Greater Chicago published its July newsletter with a focus on Tillandsias. They have reprinted Bob Hudson's article from the December 2011 newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of New South Wales which gave a listing of Tillandsias by shape. Clear and concise with supporting pictures, the newsletter is helpful in understanding these specific plants. If you would like to have the newsletter forwarded by email, let us know.

Tillandsia narthecioides, scented flowers which open at night and are pollinated by moths

Places to Go, Things to See

Sat., July 14	Tropical Ranch Botanical Gardens	9 am - 3pm	1905 SW Ranch Trail Stuart (http://www.trbg.us)
Sat., July 14 & Sun., July 15	USF Tropical Plant Fair	10 am - 4 pm, 10 am -3 pm	USF Botanical Gardens 4202 E. Fowler Avenue Tampa (http://www.cas.usf.edu)
Sat., July 21 & Sun. July 22	Bromeliad Society of Greater Chicago Show and Sale	9:30 am - 4:30 pm	Chicago Botanic Gardens 1000 Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe, IL 60022
August	Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens	9:30 am-4:30 pm	10901 Old Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL Free, the 1st Wed. of the month 'til Nov. & every Sunday in Aug.
Aug 18-19	Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Sale	10 am- 5 pm	Garden Club of Sanford
Sep. 19-22	Society of Amer. Florists Convention		The Breakers, Palm Beach, FL
Mar. 14-18, 2013	Bromeliad Society of New Zealand	Hours vary daily	Cool Broms Conference, Auckland, NZ

Conference schedule is online at
http://www.bsi.org/events/2012/schedule.html

ORLANDIANA 2012

20TH WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE
ORLANDO, FLORIDA

September 26 - 30, 2012
Caribe Royal
8101 World Center, Orlando, Florida 888-258-7501
A link to hotel reservations is at fcbs.org

Business

ADVERTISE HERE
$10.00
PER MONTH

T & C Tropicals
Specializing in Bromeliads
21 Holly Lane
Plantation, Fl., 33317
954-530-0076
954-931-1711

BUD'S BROMELIADS

BUD HENDRIX
824 N. BEL AIR DRIVE
PLANTATION, FL 33317
954-583-8636

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!!

Whether you are in staying town or on the road this summer, please keep your cell phone or camera handy to capture terrific bromeliads you encounter. Just email the image(s) to the editor at yroftiger@aol.com with any info you have.

Got a bromeliad question? Send an email to the same address above and we'll post the question for our experts in SCURF.

Terrific Tips on Tillandsia capitata rubra

Most everyone who has wandered into the world of bromeliads has come upon this delightful little plant. Tropiflora has hundreds on tables and club sales usually have a few for sale. It is usually an un-planted typical Tillandsia somewhere from three to six inches laying in a non-descript clump.

They are rather slow growing, slow to pup and drab in color. It has five basic color forms. Rubra (red) is most common. Yellow, peach, orange and purple are also found. The colors are so muted that they don't appear to have a color.

I started out with a drab little clump and attached it to a piece of wood. It did little but exist and eventually bloomed some small purple blossoms and pupped a while later.

Then I looked them up in the literature. I found a large, bright red plant living in Mexico. Mine didn't look anything like the picture. I assumed it was because I live in Florida, far from Mexico and South America.

Then I found a vendor selling capitatas at about six to eight inches. He had them hanging in a nylon line kind of net under his tent. Upon asking, he told me that he used a tea-bag kind of thing filled with a slow-release fertilizer hidden down among the leaves.

Then I woke up. I have long told whoever would listen that bromeliads don't belong in trees. They are only there in the wild because all on the ground were eaten by various herbivores. They live up in the trees and on cliff faces because they have to not because they want to.

So I planted my next pup in a small pot with all of the attention that a real bromeliad gets. It grew to about 12 inches. So then I planted my next pup in an 8-inch ceramic azalea pot and placed it in full sun. I couldn't believe my 18-inch red beauty. It is the star on my pool deck. I can't wait to plant the pups in large 14-inch pots.

I intend to try this with other Tillandsias. I realize that several Tillandsias have evolved into plants with roots that are only hold-fasts and not true nutrient absorbing organs.

While at Tropiflora, I found a color form that they called Marron. It is red with a yellow inflorescence.

Next time you find a capitata treat it like a full-sun plant in a good sized pot and enjoy.

Larry Davis