Bromeliad Society of Broward County

Scurf

June 2015

This picture was taken about May 15. The first fragrant yellow flower appeared around June 1. Since then, thirty-nine branches have spread out. The plant now reaches 15 feet in height. The flowers should last several months. The plant will have up to twenty offsets around the surface of the soil. This plant is at least twenty years old. Image courtesy of Maureen Frazel.

2015 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	Maurice Bruet	646-522-2519
Treasurer–Interim	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
Recording Secretary	Josie Rivera-Abdo	954-999-0314
Corresponding Secretary	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367

Directors:

	Bruce Zaret	bruce4art@aol.com
	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
	Shirley Konefal	954-922-5582

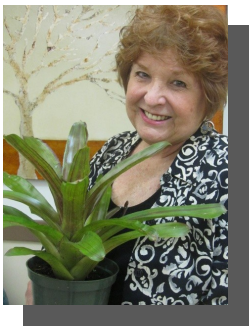
Committee Chairpersons:

Country Store	Bill David	954-321-9229
Librarian	Josie Rivera-Abdo	954-999-0314
Membership	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
	Marcia David	954-321-9229
	Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516
	Susan Halliwell-Mather	954-584-0908
Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229
Plant Sale Table	Bill David	954-321-9229
Publicity	Molly Lesnick	954-587-9552
Raffle/Ticket Sales	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466

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 and February.

Affliliations: BSBC supports

The President's Message



What's Up With the Bromeliad Society Since Our May Meeting?

1. Teaching Beginning Bromeliad Gardeners

On May 19th, Gayle Spinell-Gellers and I gave a bromeliad slide presentation with a Tillandsia craft project to beginning gardeners at Gateway Christian School in Fort Lauderdale. The principal, Mrs, Faulkison, recognizes the importance of teaching her elementary students about their environment and their participation in gardening for the past two years. This year, Mrs. Faulkison extended an invitation to our Society to do a one hour presentation to her elementary students. Our audience was Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and 5th grade students, with their teachers. Gayle, a retired Broward County Schools media specialist, prepared an elementary level slide presentation of our Broms 101 course and developed a craft project using an aluminum wire spiral with beads as a Tillandsia holder, based on an idea contributed by Carol Mordas. Everyone was shown how to wrap the aluminum wire to create the spiral, attach the beads and, lastly, place the Tillandsias inside the spiral. The photos at the top of Page 5 are of some of our students who show their delight in the finished project. Info was also given about Tillandsia care which is simply spraying it twice a week with drops of water. Our program was so successful, Gayle and I were invited to do another presentation to the students for Gateway's next school year. Our Society is especially fortunate to have such a gifted member in Gayle. She has been our SCURF editor for several years now as well as our webmaster. Thank you to Jim Kerns for the 30 Tillandsias he provided for our Gateway Christian School students.

2. Our Annual Survey
Thank you to those who participated in our Annual Survey, whether through the online version or during our April/May General Meetings. Here are some of the results: The majority of the respondents enjoyed our programs, wanted more information regarding Bromeliads, more unusual plants and silent auctions, Garden Tours on Saturday mornings and/or Sundays, 2 Auctions a year in the Fall and the Spring, our special events and our Holiday party. We heard you.

3. Our General Meetings will continue though out the summer.

OUR FALL AUCTION IS SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2015.
THIS IS A DATE CHANGE FROM OUR USUAL FALL AUCTION. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

SEPTEMBER - Meeting Subject – Achmeas and Neoregelias
OCTOBER - Meeting Subject – Bilbergias and Variseas
NOVEMBER - Meeting Subject – Tillandsias and Dickias
DECEMBER – Holiday Party

IF YOU HAVE OVERLOOKED RENEWING YOUR SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR, IT IS WAAAYYYY PAST DUE. $25 FOR A SINGLE MEMBERSHIP, $30 FOR FAMILY, $10 FOR STUDENT. THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST EDITION OF THE SCURF IF YOU DO NOT RENEW.

Don't forget our June General Meeting on Monday, June 15th. **DENNIS CATHCART** from **TROPIFLORA** will be here with slides from his trips to Brazil. Dennis will bring plants from Tropiflora for sale. The Raffle table will be open and Silent Auction plants will be available, too.

See you Monday night. *Becky*

BSBC Vice-President

Dear Society members,
We've got a great show lined up for June. Be sure to attend, our speaker is Dennis Cathcart from his internationally famous bromeliad nursery, Tropiflora. Dennis has acres of bromeliads under shade cloth growing and being bred outside of Sarasota. If you ever get the chance to go, an exciting visit awaits you. In fact, the Society took a ramble there in the Spring and we spent the day browsing and buying marvelous broms. Dennis and his wife Linda generously treated us all to lunch. I hope we can take another trip there soon. The pic is me with my formerly bareroot Alcantera imperialis, purchased that day.

Dennis will be speaking and showing slides about his last trip to Brazil, and he'll be bringing plants to sell so bring your bags and your station wagons.

Maurice

These 4 Images are courtesy of Bill David

SCURF Feature

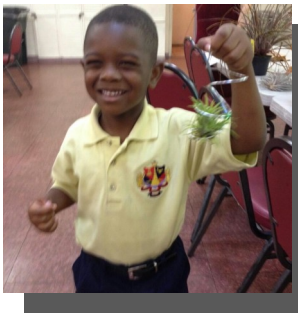
May Mystery Plant Identified

Hoenbergia inermis identified by Bruce Zaret

Win a raffle sheet with 20 tickets

Be the first to email yroftiger@aol.com with the correct name of this brom

Students at Gateway Christian Academy



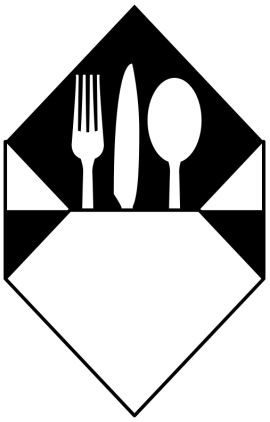
Harriet's Hoots

Hi Gang, how is everyone? I hope you all are having a great summer so far. Actually it's not summer until June 21st, but who cares.

Well, I have something to tell you. As you all know, I always make a list of the names of the members who brought something for our refreshment table and what they brought. Unfortunately, the list I had was destroyed and I'll tell you how.

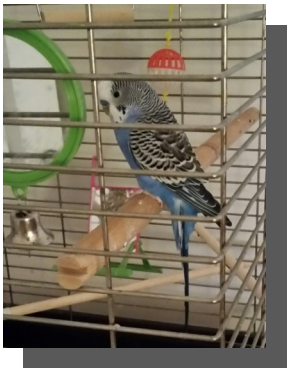
I have a little blue parakeet named Fritz. He's just a little guy and most of the time, quite nice. The other day I was cleaning out his cage and was putting paper on the bottom and without realizing it, I picked up the piece of paper that had all the names of who brought what and placed it in the cage. Thinking I was finished, I closed the cage and when I saw what I had done, it was too late because my little bird Fritz began to eat away at the paper. I tried to get into the cage, really I did, but Fritz gave me a look that said….don't you dare take that paper out of my cage. Well, like a crazed animal, he proceeded to eat away at the paper and when I tried to retrieve it, he began nipping at my fingers and started screeching. It was terrifying. Now, I know you all are thinking, he's just a little bird, but you don't know Fritz… you can't get him mad. So I waited until it seemed that he had enough and I tried to salvage what I could. Now, it's me against this little creature - - guess who won????? You don't see your names any-place, do you? So that will tell you that the paper was destroyed by Fritz.

Now that you know the story and why you do not see your names and my comments – I would like to thank everyone who brought refreshments last month. I do appreciate it and it looks like Fritz appreciated his little snack.



So, on that note I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting. I will be calling the birthday people to remind them to bring something for the table and of course I would appreciate any contributions from our members. I will make sure to keep the list under lock and key and Fritz can clean his own cage from now on.

P.S. In case you want to see my fearless bird - - -
Here is Fritz.



See you at the meeting - -

Hugs,

Membership News

JUNE

Robert Moorman

Ann Schandelmayer

Linda Wiringer

Welcome New Members

John F. Medeiros of Wilton Manors

Errol J. and Emma J. Simmons of Miramar

June Meeting

Meeting: Monday, June 15, 2015
6:30 pm at
Deicke Auditorium
5701 Cypress Road, Plantation, FL 33317

Guest Speaker: Dennis Cathcart from Tropiflora

Topic: My Trip to Brazil in Search of Bromeliads

Want to travel to Brazil without packing a suitcase? Join us for a first person account of the plant riches in this land by the Amazon.

As Dennis will be bringing plants for sale, our own plant sales table will be closed. There will be both a Raffle Table and a Silent Auction with some more terrific special plants. Our Country Store will have the very supplies you need. Dennis is an engaging speaker so be sure to attend.

From the Editor

As Becky mentioned, our foray back into the classroom at Gateway Christian Academy went really well. The kids were an excellent audience and had a fun time decorating their spirals which have been hanging in their classrooms ever since. All were surprised to learn that there were bromeliads right under the school sign outside and down the street from the academy. Now that we have gotten our feet wet with our first trip back to school, we will be looking for future opportunities to present to other kids at other schools, as well as returning to Gateway by popular demand next year. We need to build the next generation of gardeners.

As a follow up to the article we posted in last month's SCURF, there was a nice short article on growing pineapples in pots in the Sunday, May 17th Home & Gardening section of the Miami Herald on P. 17 M. Our first go at this was pretty successful, so we are gearing up for trying this gardening adventure again. If you don't have a lot of space, no matter, you can grow a pineapple! The info is available on the web or contact me for a copy of the article.

Also found on the web —-a link to 23 Diagrams that Make Gardening so Much Easier. Definitely some helpful hints here. Looking for a visual treat? Check out the video Shirley Konefals posted to You Tube showcasing her Ursulaea macvaughii. What a stunning plant! Bruce Zaret handed out some Ursulaea seeds recently and we are going to give it a try. The slow growing puyas continue to thrive, so maybe we will luck out again. The Ursulaea is gorgeous, why not give it a try?

Larry Davis pointed our attention to a recent article in the Sun Sentinel about Dr. Bill Kern who spoke a few months back on options for dealing with our snail problems. This time Dr. Kern was interviewed about spiders and how to identify the really dangerous ones. We are so lucky to have true subject experts in our area.

Had the opportunity to visit with Dee and Jesse Vance of Nature's Relics this week. You will no doubt remember their interesting presentation back in October 2013 on old Florida wood. Jesse has been scouring NW Florida for some new real wood treasures. Many recently acquired pieces had Tillandsias mounted on them with just awesome results. There is just no end to the variety and possibilities. Their yard is a great example of how old wood, bromeliads of all sorts and orchids can be incorporated into an enchanting landscape. Jesse and Dee are thrilled to have one of their broms send up an enormous spike much like the one on our cover this month. Kindred Spirits.

Happy Gardening,

Gayle

If you are looking for a unique plant related event……

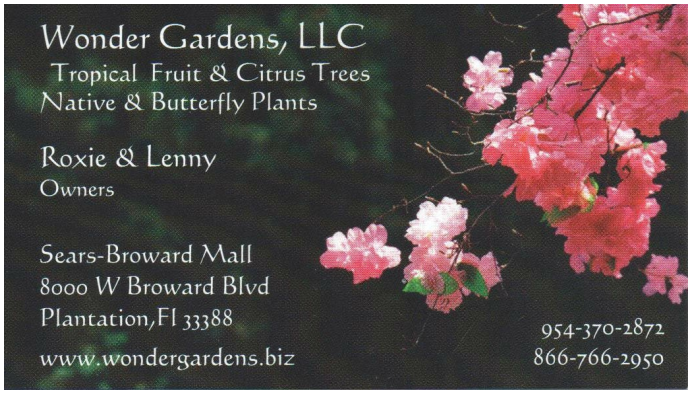
The Secret Life of Plants Artist Talk @ Bookstore in the Grove
Friday, June 12 at 7:30 pm
3390 Mary Street, Coconut Grove

Stop in the Clyde Butcher Gallery in the Grove first to view the botanically themed artwork by local artists.

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
2nd Friday	B.U.S.H.	Trinity Church Community Rm
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

Aug. 8, 2015	Bromeliad Sale		USF Botanical Gardens, 4202 E. Fowler Avenue NES107, Tampa
Sept. 25, 2015	Bromeliads in the Magic City		Double Tree Hotel 711 NW 72 St., Miami

Businesses