Bromeliad Society of Broward County

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

Scurf

March 2016

Ursulaea macvaughii
image courtesy of Shirley Konefals

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	Open	
Corresponding Secretary	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367

Directors:

	Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516
	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
	Shirley Konefal	954-632-4528

Committee Chairpersons:

Country Store	Bill David	954-321-9229
Librarian	Open	
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

MARCH 2016

We are back to our 3rd Monday in the month general meetings. We've been missing your smiling faces and hope to have you **JOIN US THIS MONDAY**.

For those of you who haven't been able to attend our January and February meetings, it's time to renew your dues. **MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE RENEWED IN JANUARY OF EACH YEAR – SINGLE MEMBERSHIPS - $25; FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS AT THE SAME ADDRESS - $30; STUDENTS - $10.** If there are changes in your address, e-mail address or telephone number, go to www.bromeliadsocietybc.com to download a membership application, fill it out, and bring it to our general meeting. You can always fill out a membership application at our general meeting for any changes or for a new member.

Our **MARCH MEETING IS GAME TIME! TIME** to spend an evening of fun and games. **TIME** to see how well our Society is doing with its' presentations including BROM 101, slide shows, hands on planting and pupping. **COME LEARN** about bromeliads in a new way and act as contestants in a rendition of one of our favorite game shows – **JEOPARDY**.

Our **GUEST SPEAKER** this month will be **DAVE JOHNSTON**. He will be our Master of Ceremonies for **BROMELIAD JEOPARDY**. Dave will conduct the game in 3 player categories – beginners, intermediates and advanced players. I promise you I will be playing in the BEGINNERS category. Better yet, Dave will provide bromeliad prizes for the winners. There is no cost to play. What a way to have fun learning more about bromeliads but an opportunity to see how much we have learned over the past two years in our general meetings.

Dave is bringing his EXCEPTIONAL BROMELIADS for sale to our members. Our members plant sales table will be closed. Our Country Store will be open for those gardening supplies you will need for your new pups and/or your plants for our upcoming **PLANT SALE ON MARCH 26, 27, 28, 2016, AND OUR SPRING AUCTION ON APRIL 18, 2016.**

Our first GARDEN TOUR this year was on Sunday, February 28th at SUNSHINE BROMELIADS in Southwest Ranches. For those of you who couldn't attend, you missed a beautiful day in the lovely gardens of our gracious hostesses Josefa Leon and her daughter, Maria Amador. Josefa has integrated rare and unusual tropical plants and orchids with her bromeliads in the trees, in the ground and some in pots of water and ponds. Her nursery is behind her personal home and covers acres of bromeliads of all varieties and sizes. The nursery is in the process of expanding into several more acres to the west. We brought our lunches and our hostesses provided sweet treats and refreshments. Thank you, Josefa and Maria for your kindness to our members. Photos are on Page _____.

MARCH 26, 27, and 28, 2016 – OUR FIRST PLANT SALE EVENT AT THE PRIDE CENTER IN WILTON MANORS. THE ADDRESS IS 2040 North Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors. SET-UP will occur on FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2016 beginning at 2:00 PM. TAKE DOWN WILL BEGIN ON SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2016, AT 4:00 PM. Plants can be brought to our tent on Friday afternoon, best after we get tables and canopies set up or early Saturday morning before the event starts. Our member plant SELLERS MUST PROVIDE 4 HOURS OF SELLING TIME PLUS ASSIST IN EITHER SET UP OR TAKE DOWN. Last year, our members took home $1580. If you have plants to sell, feel free to bring them. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A SALE NUMBER, SEE CAROL MORDAS, OUR TREASURER TO ASSIGN ONE. WE USE YOUR NUMBER TO RETURN YOUR 80% PROFIT TO YOU FROM YOUR SALES, AFTER THE EVENT. A VOLUNTEER LIST WILL BE PASSED AROUND AT OUR GENERAL MEETING THIS MONDAY.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS STATUS – Elections have been delayed a month until the beginning of our APRIL general meeting due to changes required in our BY-LAWS. The changes will allow BOARD MEMBERS to extend their term of office because no candidates were found for the positions of President and Recording Secretary. A copy of the revised page of our By-Laws will be passed out at our General Meeting for notification as required prior to voting for the By-Laws changes and our election of officers in the following month. This is required by our By-Laws.

OUR **SPRING BROMELIAD AUCTION** WILL BE HELD ON **MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2016**. GREAT BARGAINS, UNUSUAL BROMELIADS AND UNIQUE PLANTERS. Each member is asked to contribute 3 HEALTHY PLANTS (NO SCALE) for the AUCTION. There will also be plants from our wholesalers in Homestead and other supporters. A VOLUNTEER LIST WILL BE PASSED AROUND FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SPRING AUCTION AT THIS MONTH'S GENERAL MEETING. WE WILL NEED INDIVIDUALS TO ENROLL BIDDERS AND PASS OUT BID NUMBERS, RUNNERS, AND CASHIERS. YOUR HELP IS NEEDED TO MAKE THIS A SUCCESSFUL EVENT.

We will be having general meetings throughout the summer as was voted on by our general membership in the MARCH meeting. Our MAY 16, 2016 GENERAL MEETING PRESENTATION IS BEING REVISED. Further information will be provided in APRIL's SCURF.

See you at MONDAY'S MEETING. If you took notes on our Bromeliad presentations, you may want to brush up for **BROMELIAD JEOPARDY.**

Becky

Images from the February Meeting

Sunshine Bromeliads Tour

February was a pretty good month in terms of gardening….. a fun presentation on tillandsias by Ann Schandelmayer and Bill David at our last meeting, followed by a private tour of Sunshine Bromeliads on the Sunday following. Check out the images from the tour.

Harriet's Hoots

Greetings Gang:

Well, we finally have some great weather and that's because spring is in the air. March 20th is the first day of spring. The days are also getting longer (hooray). I just love it when it doesn't get dark until close to 8:00 pm. You all set your clocks ahead right??? Cause if you didn't then you'll be late for the meeting (hahaha).

Another holiday on March 17th is St. Patty's Day. I know that our meeting is on March 21st, and that's after St. Patrick's Day but so what….. Let's celebrate anyway. I'm sure you all know what I'm going to say - - Yes, Yes, Let's all wear something green. Anything you have, shirt, pants, socks, ribbon in your hair (just for the gals) etc. Of course you know that Mr. Larry Davis will be wearing green - - - and sporting a fun hat.

Here is a little Irish Proverb for everyone - - - -

May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door.

So go ahead and find yourself a four-leaf-clover and you'll have good luck……

In this article I would like to thank everyone who contributed and brought goodies for our refreshment table. You are great and I could not do everything without your help. This goes for members who bring a tasty treat, to members who lend a hand and go for ice when I need it, or ask if they can help with the cleanup, etc. etc. I love the members in our club because you are so friendly and when and if I need a hand, I know that I can depend on anyone of you. So, this time……. Stand up - - - come on, stand up and give yourself a big hand - - - CLAP, CLAP, CLAP, CLAP.

Well it's time to wrap this up before I get misty thinking about how great you all are. So I will see you all at our next meeting.

Hugs always - - - Harriet

Membership News

M A R

Melissa Garvey
Peter Hartig
George Henderson
Tom Hopfinger
Richard Konefal
Jack Mackey
Mary Pavlinek
Jill Price

Many thanks to Errol J. Simmons for contributing photos of his Miramar neighborhood and how they have used broms to enhance their homes. Check out the new video on our website at http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/our-gardens.html.

From the Editor

No question that bromeliads are pretty terrific plants to grow. There is such an endless variety. We each have our own story just how we became involved with these amazing plants. Harry Sperling is a long time BSBC member with a very interesting story to share. A fabulous baker, Harry is renown for his pastry treats and for his thriving array of plants featured in the video of his Hollywood Haven that is on our website at http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/our-gardens.html.

Meet BSBC member: Harry Sperling

Harry O. Sperling Jr was born during the Great Depression in 1929.

Yes, I was a 'Depression' baby and survived it with my parents to go on and to live in the city where I was born, Passaic, NJ where I attended High School and after graduation attended NJ State Teacher's College and completed my BS degree at Fairleigh Dickinson University having to compete with the returning GI's from WW2. After my graduation I entered the military and served in the Korean War for 18 months, returning to the USA and then at age 23 moved to the Sunshine State where I finally got my first garden.

Although I had a love of plants I never had my own garden but enjoyed visiting my relative's suburban garden and greenhouse in NJ. I relished my Florida garden, testing all kinds of plants and enjoying everything from annuals, perennials and bushes and fruit and flowering trees. Bromeliads were a part of it but the supply in the early years was sparse. I joined BSBC when Polly Pascal was President and I was a member for many years but was unable to attend meetings when my mother, at age 85, lost her vision.. She lived a little over 15 more years so my social life was 'on hold'. I enjoyed getting back to the various garden clubs and went full speed into bromeliads and now have a large collection.

Unlike orchids they do propagate and have many 'pups'. I have about a hundred or more in my front landscape and people passing by slow down in their vehicles to admire the plants as well as various neighbors walking by telling me how much they enjoy viewing the plants - a good feeling to know they are appreciated not only by me but by others. My landscape has induced people in my neighborhood to add bromeliads in their landscape and many have used the same background plants along with bromeliads mimicking my front landscape and that pleases me. I will be cutting back ,however ,and many plants will be given away, donated to the raffle table, and sold since caring for so many is too much for me at 86 years of age. No matter what age, however, we are in a constant learning cycle of new ideas, methods, and varieties that hold our interest.

During WW2 an Uncle of mine worked for Curtis Wright manufacturing engine parts for aircraft needed for the war effort and deadlines had to be kept causing him to be under great pressure for production often getting his employees upset and irritated. When he came home in the evening hours stressed and tired my aunt would encourage him to go to his greenhouse before the evening meal and check out the orchids that had come into bloom. He would return shortly thereafter in a totally different frame of mind. THAT is what growing does for us - it is THERAPEUTIC.

I enjoy the thrill of watching my plants prosper and bromeliads are so rewarding as they mature and create so many 'pups' constantly adding 'new life' to the garden. How very blessed we are to be able to enjoy our garden that also creates new friends who are equally pleased to grow and nurture the lovely new varieties that are hybridized as well as the species. It is thrilling to see the new hybrids created by Chester Skotak on Facebook. I am always pleased to visit my dear friend Josefa Leon and her family to see, and sometimes add, an occasional new plant from their extensive nursery collection at "Sunshine Bromeliads." We love to share our love of plants and exchange plants as I also do with Shirley Konefal, who is on the Board and who sells bromeliads via mail on her website, "The Nature Collection" and who so graciously takes me to the club meetings since I no longer drive at night. We have a growing membership but need people to serve on the Board so please consider this as you enjoy the friendships, programs, refreshments, and so much more at BSBC.

My thanks to those who have served in the past and present covering the various tasks to provide us all the enjoyment of pursuing our interest in Bromeliads.

My own friendship with Harry began with one funny email and just like the plants he grows, it has blossomed over these last four years. If you haven't said "Hello" Harry yet, be sure to do so.

Garden on!

Gayle

SCURF Feature

Tillandsia bulbosa Giant Pink

Win a raffle sheet with 20 tickets—-

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

March Meeting

Monday, March 21, 2016
6:30 pm
Deicke Auditorium, 5701 Cypress Road, Plantation

David Johnston presents

Bromeliad Jeopardy

Our **Country Store** will be open. The **Sales Table** and **Raffle Table** **will be closed for this night's meeting. David is bringing special plants for purchase and prizes. This promises to be a really fun educational evening so do join us**

Time to renew your membership in the BSBC!
If possible, please consider paying by check. It helps us in tracking our membership.

Thanks!!!

Calendar of Local Plant Society Meetings

1st Tuesday	Plantation Orchid Society	Deicke Auditorium
2nd Monday	BSBC Board Meeting	Deicke Auditorium
2nd Friday	Ft. Lauderdale Garden Club	Birch State Park
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

Mar. 26-27, 2016	35th Annual International Orchid & Bromeliad Show	Flamingo Gardens, Davie
Apr. 16-17, 2016	Bromeliad Society of South Florida Annual Show and Sale	Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden, Coral Gables, FL
Apr. 16-17, 2016	Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale; 9:00 - 4:00	The Garden Club of Sanford (on 17-92, one block south of Lake Mary Blvd)

Important documents for this upcoming event have been attached to this email copy of the SCURF.

Businesses

THE NATURE COLLECTION
Bromeliads, Tropicals, and
Driftwood Creations
SHIRLEY and RICHARD KONEFAL
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