# Bromeliad Society of Broward County

# Scurf

## March 2014

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/

**Garden Fest !!!**

Aechmea 'Phoenix' ..... a hybrid of Aechmea calyculata (seed) x Aechmea recurvata (pollen). The plant is 8 inches tall with body shape more like recurvata parent and yellow petals like calyculata. Sepals are orange reflecting mix of red from recurvata and yellow from calyculata.

Courtesy of Bruce Zaret

# 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 |
| | Marcia David | 954-321-9229 |
| 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 |
| 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

Hi Everyone,

Thank goodness we are back on a normal 3rd Monday of each month schedule at Deicke Auditorium!

I want to thank all of you who attended my first meeting as President You were so generous in taking your time to fill out the Survey and let us know what you would like in your organization. I will share those results with you at our **next general meeting on March 17, 2014. Many thanks again, to Dr. Terrie Bert for a very informative presentation on Broms—R thru W!**

**GARDEN FEST** is just weeks away on **March 22 and 23, 2014**. **Colleen Hendrix**, our Event Coordinator, has been working diligently to make it a success for our organization and the Plantation Women's Club who are generously supporting our efforts with their time and funding. Thank you, too, to those who volunteered to help make it a success. Remember if you want to sell some of your plants, make certain you get a Sales number from our Membership chairperson **Carol Mordas** and her Assistant **Marcia David** at our general meeting on March 17th. Sticks to be placed in your plants (2) will have your number and the name of your plant, if you know it. If you don't, that's okay, one of our expert members **Kenny Seesahai, Jim Kerns, Bill David and others** will share that information with our customers. Don't forget to visit our members' booth at the Garden Fest to see the variety of bromeliads we all grow and buy something you don't have. The Bromeliad Society of Broward County receives 20% of our plant sales; our members 80%. Look for **Larry Davis**, our Vice President **selling** those **50/50 Raffle tickets**.

We will also be having **an Art Exhibit** during **Garden Fest** in the east room of the Volunteer Park building. There will be art for sale. I will be oil painting during those two days for those art lookers who just want to come by and say hello. We will have an artist from the South Florida Bromeliad Society, **Urszula Dudek,** and local members from the Plantation Art Guild, Weston Art Guild, our own Society and the Plantation Women's Club. Our **membership table** will be there for those of you who haven't paid your dues, with applications for new members.

This month is the month for bromeliad shows and sales. Gayle Spinell-Gellers, our Scurf Editor, has listed the dates and places for you to mark on your calendar. **Read your Scurf carefully, you will be surprised what you will find.**

**Happy St. Patrick's Day!**



**Becky Blackwood**

# From the Vice President

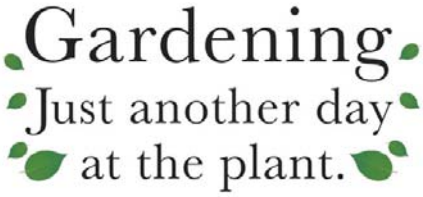
Hi, Gang - - interesting items for the March meeting - - From the feedback I'm getting, quite a few of you read Harriet's column first - - Hmmm, not mine? Not Becky's? - - And this month Harriet says we celebrate St Patty's Day by wearing green - - And if Harriet says "wear green", I'm wearing green - - C'mon, gang, let's bury her in green - - green plants, green clothes, green hats, green food, green drinks.

The speaker this month is **Diana Guidry from Broward County Natural Resources Planning and Management Division** - - I'll give you much more when I introduce her - - but as a teaser - - she will tell you all about the procedures (and hints) to get your yard certified for different awards - - yes, even your bromeliad patch can become a winner.

Regarding our **raffle table, which we will be a "go" again this month** - - Terrie Bert, our February speaker, told me that we had the best raffle table in the state, by far - - but we already knew that didn't we - - and a large "Thank You" to all of you who bring all of the wonderful items for our table.

The **sales table** will also be open - - but I'm certain that the real beauties will be brought to the Garden Fest Member's Tent - - I'll take a few minutes to give you the scoop on how you can make a few bucks by bringing in your plants next weekend.

I'm presenting biographies of our Board members, in order that are presented in the Scurf, so that you can meet the people who are working so hard for our society - - and the bio for this month is who? - - just check it out.



# Meet Our Vice President, Larry Davis

I am a really happy person. My life is wonderful. All I really need is a bigger bag of gold. I have my beautiful Harriet to love. Who could ask for more?

I was born in Akron, Ohio. My dad started out as a tire builder and ended up owning his own neighborhood drug store. Unfortunately these hardly exist anymore. While working summers in my dad's store, he taught me (actually forced me) to greet everyone who entered the store and to learn something about each of them. This life lesson has served me well my whole life.

After playing every instrument in the high school band, I decided to play baseball professionally. After getting on a local semi-pro team, I found out that I couldn't hit a professional curve ball. It was then I figured I needed a career. I became a mathematician. In those days there was no such thing as computer science, but that was what I studied. I picked up a degree at Case-Western Reserve in Cleveland and a Master's Degree at Pitt. I ended up at IBM and then as the head of the Pitt computer center. I then drifted into consulting until retirement.

I was married a few times and raised three kids. Sadly only one lived to give me 2 beautiful granddaughters. I also figured out that I didn't care for being married. I was much happier in a committed relationship. My happiest relationship has been my three years with Harriet. She says it's been 11 years, can't possibly be true.

From a young age, I have always been spell-bound by the theater. After taking 20 years to raise my kids, I decided to hit the stage. I love to perform particularly in costume. For the last 20 years, I have appeared on stage in at least two performances. I have appeared in the Florida Grand Opera, movies, TV shows, ads, local Community Theater, at least 22 Broadway-style musicals, auctions and last October began to narrate on boat trips to the Hillsboro Lighthouse. I am an active member of the Florida Light-house Association and have climbed every publicly open lighthouse from Mexico to Canada.

In between gigs, Harriet and I have visited Paris twice and are planning another trip to include Amsterdam and London.

I started out with bromeliads 13 years ago, but got serious about it when Harriet and I built our first shade house 11 years ago. I currently have 2 large shade houses and several other gardens. I am presently an active member of the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches.

If we haven't yet met, let's get acquainted.

# Membership News

M
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C
H

Peter Hartig
George Henderson
Richard Konefal
Jack Mackey

**Welcome New Members:**
**Martha Reichman from Fort Lauderdale**
**Elizabeth Campbell from Plantation**

## 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!

Membership renewals: the rate is $25 for an individual and $30 for a family.
We will accept, cash, check, Visa or Master Card.

**For our new BSBC Home Page at**
**http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/**

**Interested in sharing the wonders of your bromeliads the easy way? How about we come out to your garden and take some really neat photos for our website? All personal info like last name and home address can be kept confidential. Think of it as a field trip without the hassle. Drop an email to yroftiger@aol.com if you are intrigued.**

# From the February Meeting

## Our Next Meeting: Monday, Mar. 17, 2014 at 6:30 pm

Deicke Auditorium, 5701 Cypress Road, Plantation, FL

## Guest Speaker

### Diana Guidry will be presenting!

She will be explaining the Broward Naturescape Program that certifies yards and habitats for awards of excellence.

NatureScape BROWARD

**The Sales Table will be open this month.**
**Yes, there will be a raffle table.**
**It will be another terrific evening!**

Info Fun Friendship Plants Food

# Harriet's Hoots

Greetings Gang…….It's almost Spring (actually the official date will be March 20th) but the weather has been beautiful. So, why am I in my office right now rather than being outside and enjoying this sunshine????

In case you were not aware, St. Patrick's Day will be upon us shortly. In fact, the date is when our next meeting will be, Monday, March 17th. So, you know what that means don't you??? Ok, I'll give you a hint. GREEN, GREEN, GREEN. That's right; it's Green Day (hahaha) I want you all to wear something green, a shirt, pair of pants, even green socks will do. Whatever floats your boat. I will be wearing green and you know that our VP, Larry Davis will certainly show up in some kind of green outfit. Don't you just love it,? I do. Brings a smile to your face and hopefully some laughter. That's what we want our club to strive for. Happy and friendly members.

Here are some fun facts about St. Patty's Day..

Almost 94 million people plan to wear green on St. Patrick's Day (Make sure you're one of them)

Since 1962, the Chicago River has been dyed green in honor of the day.

Leprechauns will hide their pot of gold at the end of a rainbow. (Let's start looking for it! )

Speaking of green, if any of you wish to bring a dish for the refreshment table (besides the birthday people) don't forget to add some green to your contribution, whether it's part of the food or a decoration.

Ok, time to thank our wonderful members for their February contributions.

Loretta Smith - - Marble Cake and Crackers (Yummy)

Shirley Konefal – - Chicken Pasta with Farfalle (My favorite)

Patty Zicarelli - - Brie & Crackers and Mint Cookies (Loved it)

Harry Sperling - - Strawberry Cake with Fresh Strawberries (Wonderful)

Brigitte Sheeks / Gloria Chernoff – - Spinach Dip w/Chips & Hummus (Great)

Lou Webber - - Blueberry Pineapple Desert (Boy, that went fast)

Jack Mackey - - Pasta Salad (Good Choice)

Steven Weisberg - - Refreshing Soda & Mint Dark Choc Candy (Fantastic)

Martha Wright – - Corn Spoon Bread (Delicious - Old recipe – 1944)

Well, time to wrap things up - - Now remember – WEAR GREEN

See you at our next meeting - - - Hugs,

Harriet

# From the Editor

Ah, Valentine's Day….. Chocolate, plants, art, and music. The scene was McKee Botanical Garden in Vero Beach. My college roommate, Joyce, and her husband thought it might make for a nice, different way to celebrate the day. We arrived at dusk and spent about two hours walking around a luminaria-lit garden path filled with bromeliads and sculptures by Seward Johnson while jazz music played in the background. Topped the tour off with a luscious chocolate cupcake and coffee under the stars. Not bad. Pity the poor Northerners who have been freezing this winter. Though all of us have lived here forever, not one of us had been to McKee before. Lovely at night, we will be coming back in the day to see even more.

*Gotcha…* Johnson's sculpture of a hedge clipping gardener (1993)

BTW, subtly during the last few years, I have been steering Joyce towards a little gardening….. Joyce is pretty tied up with a lot of obligations, so I offered to help with her horticultural concerns and contribute some extra bromeliads I had for her front garden. Most of the broms have done well in her incredibly sandy soil. There is still room for some more plants. Hence, Garden Fest is penciled in on her calendar.

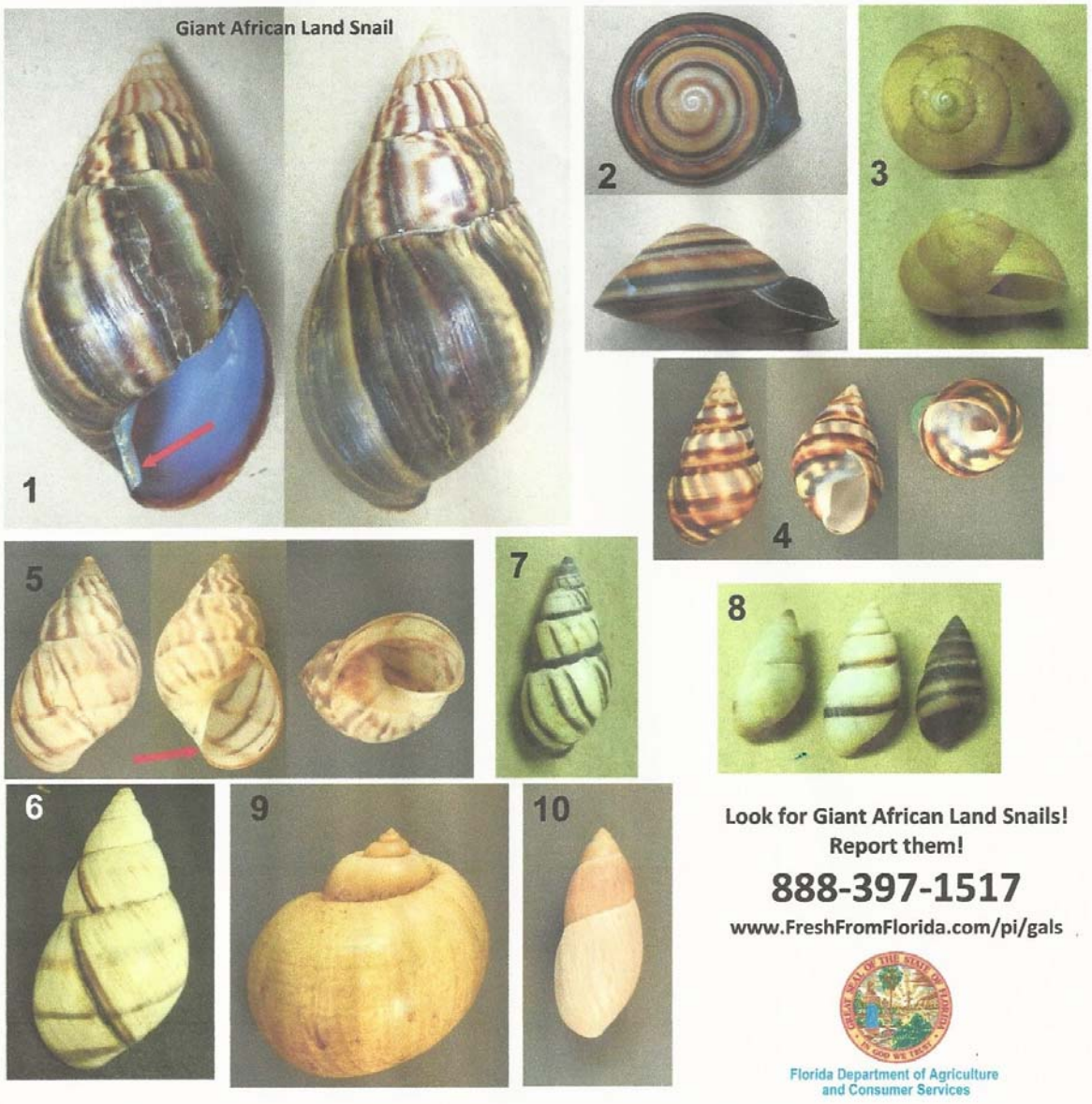
Speaking of Garden Fest and who isn't? I will be at Volunteer Park on Friday afternoon helping vendors unload. Not only is it a nice way represent our society and to treat vendors who have come a great distance, it gives me a chance to get first looks at the plants. Last year I put a hold on several plants before Garden Fest ever opened to the public. It was a win-win. If you haven't already signed up to volunteer at Garden Fest, give some serious thought to doing so.

## Resource Page:

Many thanks to Tracy Moulton for providing a copy of the valuable resource page on snails which follows on the next page. Yup, front and center was the very image of my garden nemesis, #3 the Cuban land snail. I'm afraid to hope too much, but the shelled wonders seem to have moved on at least for now. Still, it pays to be vigilant so keep this on hand lest another invasion occur. Attached is also the newsletter from our sister society in NYC. Fun and interesting reading.

Happy trails,
Gayle

## Giant African Land Snail vs. Other Common FL Snail ID Sheet




1) *Achatina (Lissachatina) fulica*, Giant African Land Snail. Note inward curl of shell. Up to 8 inches. **If suspected, call FDACS Helpline**.
2) *Caracolus marginella*, the banded caracol, an uncommon introduced species. Up to 1.5 inches.
3) *Zachrysia provisoria*, the Cuban land snail, an occasional pest. Up to 1.5 inches.
4) *Liguus fasciatus*, the Florida tree snail, a native beneficial snail, cleans trees. Up to 2 inches.
5) *Orthalicus reses*, the Stock Island tree snail, a native beneficial snail, found mostly in the Keys. Up to 2 inches.
6) *Orthalicus floridensis*, the banded tree snail, largest native land snail is beneficial by cleaning trees. Up to 2.5 in.
7) *Drymaeus multilineatus*, the many-lined tree snail, a native beneficial snail, cleans trees. Up to 1.5 inches.
8) *Bulimulus guadeloupensis*, the Guadeloup snail, an introduced species, not a pest, cleans surfaces. Up to 1 inch.
9) *Pomacea* spp., apple snails, which are aquatic. *Pomacea paludosa* is a native, other exotic species can be pests. Up to 4 inches.
10) *Euglandina rosea*, the rosy wolf snail, a predator of other snails. Up to 2.5 inches.

## Holdings

Need to check something out about bromeliads? We have our very own readily available book collection. The list that follows on the next page includes the basic info on each book along with hot links to Amazon reviews where possible. The Florida Council website also has reviews on some of these titles. See Tracy Moulton if you want to borrow one of our books.

| Title | Author | Copyright |
|---|---|---|
| Blooming Bromeliads | Ulrich Baensch | 1998 |
| Brazil Orchid of the Tropics | Mulford & Racine Foster | 1945 |
| Bromeliaceae Andreanae | Edouard Francois Andre | 1983 |
| Bromeliaceae Ole Proceedings of the 1982 World Bromeliad Conf | Corpus Christi Bromeliad Society | 1982 |
| Bromeliaceaes of Venezuela | Francisco Oliva-Esteva | 1987 |
| Bromeliaceas en Flor (in Spanish) | Ulrich Baensch | 1996 |
| Bromeliads | Francisco Oliva-Esteva | 2000 |
| Bromeliads - Genera, Species, Hybrids | Louis Dutrie | none |
| Bromeliads Copy # 1 | Victoria Padilla | 1973 |
| Bromeliads Copy # 2 | Victoria Padilla | 1973 |
| Bromeliads for Contemporary Gardens | Andrew Steens | |
| Bromeliads for Home, Garden & Greenhouse | Werner Rauh | 1973 |
| Bromeliads Horticulturalist Guide | Jack Kramer | 1981 |
| Bromeliads in Cultivation | Robert Gardner Wilson | 1964 |
| Bromeliads in the Brazilian Wilderness | Elton M.C. Leme | 1993 |
| Canistrum: Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest | Elton M.C. Leme | 1997 |
| Bromeliads, Houseplants of Today & Tomorrow | Walter Richter | none |
| Bromelien (in German) | Werner Rauh | 1973 |
| Canistropsis - Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest | Elton M.C. Leme | 1998 |
| Jewel of the Tropics - The Bromeliads | Lyman B. Smith | 1969 |
| Nidularium - Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest | Elton M.C. Leme | 2000 |
| Searching for Miss Fortuna - The Hunt for a Bromeliad | Chester Skotak | 2007 |
| Taking Bromeliads | | |
| The Colorful Bromeliads-Their Infinite Variety Copy # 1 | Victoria Padilla | 1981 |
| The Colorful Bromeliads-Their Infinite Variety Copy # 2 | Victoria Padilla | 1981 |
| Tillandsia II | Paul T. Isley III | 2009 |
| University Press of Florida | | 2011 |

# New SCURF Feature

## February Mystery Plant Identified

by Bruce Zaret

Vriesea correia-araujoi

## 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.

## What I have learned about gardening……..

1. Wear glasses or goggles every time you garden.
2. Wear gloves, preferably long, thick gloves.
3. There is no such thing as, "I'll only be a minute. I'm just going to pull a few weeds."
4. Just when you think you may have enough plants, you fall in love with another one which you have to have.
5. No garden is ever done.
6. A plant may not do well in one spot but do swimmingly a few inches away. Some plants may not like your growing conditions no matter what you do. They may like growing at a friend's house. : )
7. Broms can seem to pup overnight. They seem to bloom overnight, too. This is all good.
8. Gardening is addictive and no treatment is necessary.
9. There actually are people out there who have not yet been introduced to bromeliads. Together we can solve this problem.

# 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. 15-16, 2014 | Coral Springs Garden Fest | 10 am—5 pm | The Walk<br>Univ. Dr. south of Sample Rd<br>Coral Springs, FL |
| Mar. 15-16, 2014 | **A Tropical Plant Fair** | 8 am—4:30 pm<br>10:30 am—3:30 pm | Pride Center<br>2040 North Dixie Hwy<br>Wilton Manors |
| Mar. 18-19, 2014 | **Open Gardens and Plant Sale** | 9 am—3 pm | Tropical Ranch Botanic Garden, Stuart , FL |
| Mar. 22- 23, 2014 | **Garden Fest !!!** | 9 am—5 pm<br>9 am—4 pm | Volunteer Park<br>12050 W. Sunrise Blvd.<br>Plantation |
| Mar. 29 -30, 2014 | **Tropiflora Spring Festival** | | Tropiflora<br>3530 Tallavast Rd,<br>Sarasota |
| Apr. 12—13, 2014 | **Spring Garden Festival**<br>**35th Annual Spring Plant Sale** | 9:30 am—4:30 pm | Fairchild Garden<br>Coral Gables |
| Apr. 18-20, 2014 | **Flamingo Gardens Orchid and Bromeliad Expo & Sale** | 9:30 am—4:30 pm | Flamingo Gardens<br>3750 S. Flamingo Rd,<br>Davie, FL |
| Apr. 26—27, 2014 | **Mounts Botanical Garden Springs Plant Sale** | 9 am—5 pm<br>9 am—4 pm | Mounts Botanical Garden<br>559 N. Military Trail<br>West Palm Beach, FL |
| Sept. 8—13, 2014 | **Bromeliads in Paradise**<br>**21st World Bromeliad Conference** | | Ala Moana Hotel<br>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

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"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.