

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



March, 2009



President's Message

I want to thank Steve Hoppin for an interesting and informative program on potting

terrestrials. Everyone was very attentive and hung onto every word Steve said. Good job Steve!

Congratulations again to all who helped with the Florida State Fair Display. Third place is great but let's shoot for First place next year.

The Federation of Garden Clubs' show is the weekend after our meeting, March 21 & 22, 2009. Kay Miller would like for us to bring our bromeliads to enter in the show. In order to save time and gas, she has made arrangements for us to enter our plants on Monday night. Kay will be there from 3:00 PM until meeting time to receive your horticulture entries. Kay would like to have lots of bromeliads entered along with any other plants that you enjoy growing. Please don't wait until it is time to start the meeting to come but try to get there early and enter your plants.

Also for those of you who would like to make a design arrangement for the Federation of Garden Clubs' show, Kay will be there from 3:00 PM up until meeting time to assist you with your arrangement. You can bring your container or vase and any blooms that you have available, especially bromeliads. However, Kay & John Miller will be also be providing beautiful flowers and foliage to also use in these arrangements and there will be some vases available.

The arrangements are to made of all live materials but are not restricted to bromeliad blooms. So bring your blooms and any type of foliage that you think you can use.

As you can see from the last two months and our workshops with Kay that she is a great designer and will give you help, ideas, and tips for your arrangement. Carol Wolfe attended one of Kay's workshops and made an arrangement and won second place in their show two years ago. Most of all, it will be an enjoyable time of working and learning and you may be surprised when you get a ribbon(s) for your design!



You may pick up your plants from the show on Sunday, March 22, 2009 starting from 3 PM to 5 PM or you can pick them up the next day at the Federation.

This month's program will be presented by our own Mike O'Leary. His program entitled "Bromeliads for Sun or Shade" should be one that all of us can learn and benefit from.

It will be an exciting meeting with Kay's workshop prior to the meeting and Mike's program. I appreciate these two long term, great members willing to share their talents with us. Be sure to attend!

See you at the meeting
Tom



**BGTB Program for
Monday, March 16, 2009**

The program "Bromeliads for Sun or Shade" will be presented by Mike O'Leary, one of our long time members and a superb grower.

Mike and Linda, his wife, live in Clearwater and they have four children and their firstborn, Kevin is now in college. Mike is a shareholder in Trenam, Kemker Law firm, one of the largest law firms in Tampa. His specialties are business transactions, wealth planning and preservation. Mike has been named one of the Super Lawyers in Florida for several years. For more information on Mike's business go to [www. Trenam.com](http://www.Trenam.com). Mike also coaches Little League baseball in his spare time.

Mike has served this club in about every position from director or President. He was Treasurer of the 1992 World Bromeliad Conference which BGTB hosted at Saddlebrook Resort. Being the Treasurer of such an event was time consuming and lots of work but Mike, assisted by his capable wife, Linda, who at the time was expecting their first child, did a great job keeping our finances straight. Linda also worked hard serving the BGTB for many years before she became a busy mom.

Don't miss Mike's hands on presentation.

Tom Wolfe
Program Chair



Fuzzy Wuzzy Decline

Tillandsia pruinosa, as sometimes called the fuzzy wuzzy air plant, is found to be on the decline. Volunteers from the membership of "Friends of Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve" have been monitoring Tillandsia pruinosa as well as other plants native to the Fakahatchee Strand which is a portion of the central Everglades. This study has been in progress over the past four years. Some think that Hurricane Wilma in 2005, may have reduced the vegetation in this area which would expose the Tillandsia pruinosa to more sunlight thus causing the decline in mature plants. Let's see what happens in 2010.

Tom Wolfe

Minutes from February 16 Meeting

President Tom Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Visitors were named and welcomed.

Correction to Minutes: January Meeting.

Dave Fulkerson made a motion to accept the nominating committee. Lyla Shepard seconded it. Carol Wolfe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Fulkerson seconded it.

Treasurer's report was given by Paula Benway. We have total assets of \$12,647.81. John Miller made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Verna Dickey seconded it.

Kay Miller presented a workshop on flower arranging with bromeliads. The flower show

with bromeliads at the garden center will be March 21 and 22. The judging will be March 21 in the a.m. and the show will be open to the public Saturday afternoon. Bring your plants to enter in the show to the March 16 meeting.

Tom Wolfe showed us the certificate of appreciation from the Florida State Fair. We came in third. Verna Dickey thanked the people that helped with our booth at the fair.

Announcements: Spring show and sale at USF will be April 11 and 12.

Dave Johnston had knee replacement surgery.

Josie Black's mother passed away.

Jim Stewart is recovering at home.

Beverly Sisco read the candidates for our new officers for 2009:

President: Tom Wolfe

Vice President: Jason Mellica or Ed Konczeski

Treasurer: Paula Benway

Secretary: Verna Dickey

Directors for 2009:

Barret Bassick

Beverly Sisco

Kathleen Ledbetter

Bob Teems

Eileen Hart

Ed Konczeski

Show 'n' Tell: Barret Bassick, Lyla Shepard, Eileen Hart, Tom Wolfe, Steve Byram and Nick Mavrikas

Break for Refreshments

Program: Steve Hoppin presented a program on Cryptanthus.

Raffle.

Respectfully submitted,
Beverly Sisco, Secretary



Snapshots: February 16 Meeting



Sales Tables



Show 'n' Tell Plants



Cryptanthus or Dyckia?



Kay Miller's Workshop



Kay's Handiwork



Eileen Hart Show 'n' Tell



Nick Mavrikas Show 'n' Tell



Speaker, Steve Hoppin



Tom & Steve



Upcoming Events:

March 28-29 - Greenfest at University of Tampa's Plant Park

April 11-12 - USF Botanical Gardens Annual Spring Plant Festival

April 25-26 - Annual Sarasota Bromeliad Society Show and Sale at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

Happy Birthday!



Every month, club members celebrating their birthdays provide the refreshments at our meeting. This way everyone helps once during the year. If you have a May or December birthday, please bring refreshments the following month, since we have the picnic and Christmas parties. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies of any kind, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, cookies, cakes, candies, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

We will have a special drawing for one of the lucky birthday people to take home a nice bromeliad as a Birthday gift from the club.

March Birthdays: Jen Allen, Paula Benway, Elisa Carr, Leni Curd, Barbara Easton, Mike Gimeno, Terry Larm, Rosie Mavrikas, Jason Mellica, Liz Mracek, Claudia Ward



Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Eileen Prins of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have.

Call 727-546-9590 or email at sprins1012@earthlink.net



Officers for 2008-2009

President: Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 bromeliadsociety@juno.com
Vice Pres.: Verna Dickey 813-685-1055 vernaled@verizon.net
Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 paulabenway@aol.com
Secretary: Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 siscofl1@msn.com
Directors: Barret Bassick 352-799-2652 barretb@myway.com
Ed Konczeski 813-871-3449 josetteanded@hotmail.com
Kathleen Ledbetter 813-228-0690 tedkathled@aol.com
Jim Stewart 813-281-0213 jimstewart@tampabay.rr.com
Bob Teems 813-855-0938 teems@tampabay.rr.com

Committee Chairs

Parliamentarian: Lyla Shepard
Librarians: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey
Raffle: Randy Garcia
Show: Tom Wolfe
Newsletter: Marilyn Byram
Membership: Eileen Kahl
Publicity: Bob Teems
Programs: Tom Wolfe
Sunshine: Eileen Prins
Photographers: Jim Stewart and Kelly Fowler



Guzmania Sanguinea Variegated

Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

Any Changes?

If your mailing address or email address changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or byramm@verizon.net





The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. was organized in 1963. BGTB is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., National Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL. Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month. Plant sales at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Where: Tampa Garden Club, 2629 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
BROMELIAD GUILD
OF TAMPA BAY, INC.
21535 Northwood Dr.
Lutz, Florida 33549**