

# **Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter**



[www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)

May, 2014

## **BGTB**

### **Annual Picnic and Plant Auction**

**Monday, May 19, 2014, 6:30 p.m.**

**Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha Center, Room 201-202**

**Come on out for an evening of fun and acquiring new bromeliads at the auction! The club will furnish the meat, drinks, condiments, cups, plates and eating utensils. Just bring your favorite vegetable, casserole, salad, or dessert and please bring the proper serving utensils.**

**After our "picnic" we will auction off some beautiful bromeliads. Please donate at least one plant and come prepared to bid on your favorite selections. This is a wonderful opportunity to add to your bromeliad collection and it is one of the club's main fundraising events.**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAY 2014



We are holding our annual MAY PICNIC AND AUCTION THIS MONTH. We ask that each member bring at least one quality plant for one our plant auction. This is one of two fund raising events we have each year so have your checkbook ready to purchase some of the “jewels of the rainforest” for your collection.

Also bring a covered dish, vegetable, salad or dessert. The meat and drinks will be provided. Plan to have a good time of food, fellowship and plant bidding. We always have a lot of fun with the bidding while serving a good purpose for the club.

I was most pleased with our Show & Tell segment of our April meeting. We had some really interesting bromeliads. There will not be a Show & Tell this month but next month please bring in one of your favorite bromeliads, blooming, rare, unique bromeliads or one that you might need to be identified.

Your new 2014/2015 officers and directors will be installed at this meeting.

Our lineup of programs for the upcoming months looks good. Speakers from June through August are as follows:

- (1) June is Mike O'Leary, attorney with Trenam Law Firm, with a new program, "Twenty-five bromeliads that should be in Every Collection." Mike always does a great job and grows some fine bromeliads.
- (2) July's program will be Dr. John Utley, retired Professor from University of New Orleans who will be giving us a program for the first time, "Bromeliads in Habitat" and
- (3) August program will be Jay Thurott, President of the Bromeliad Society International and his program topic will be announced at a later time.

Looking forward to a great summer. See you at the Picnic.

Tom Wolfe



## **Minutes, April 21, 2014**

**The meeting was called to order by Interim President, Tom Wolfe**

**Visitors: Susan and Jeff**

Member Concerns:

Dave Mracek broken hip

Marcia Hunter - broken arm and shoulder

John Miller - hip replacement

Becky Houston - fractured hip

Wolfe's newborn granddaughter - viral meningitis

Congratulations to Ray Hernandez - new baby daughter

**Treasurer's Report:** Paula Benway reported that we have \$2,83262 in our checking account and \$3,005.27 in our CD. The report will be filed for audit.

**Old Business:** Officers and Directors for 2014-2015 were elected. They will take office in May.

### **Officers**

President: Tom Wolfe

Vice President: Eileen Hart

Treasurer: Paula Benway

Secretary: Ray Hernandez

Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Byram

### **Directors**

Allen Langworthy

Julie Lessard

Tom Pride

Sabrina Pride

Robert Nelson

**New Business:** Thank you to Ken Stokes, Julie Lessard, and Eileen Hart for their help with the USF sale. It was the best sale we have had in 25 years.

Tom Wolfe expressed a need for a refreshment chair for regular meetings and asked for a volunteer.

**Announcements:** Our annual picnic and auction will be held on our next meeting date - May 19. We will start one hour earlier - at 6:30 p.m. Everyone bring either a vegetable, casserole, salad, or dessert. Please donate at least one plant for the auction.

**Door Prize Plant** won by Carol Wolfe

**Show and Tell:** Plants were shown by Douglass Wells - Neoregelia, Aechmea, Neophytum; Ken Stokes - Tillandsia, Bilbergia, Ananea 'Scorpio', Orthophytum, Deuteroconia; Eileen Hart - Aechmea, Bilbergia, Hohenbergia, Neoregelia; Dave Johnston - Vriesea; Tom Wolfe - Tillandsia, Hectia

### **Refreshments and Raffle**

**Program** was presented by Tom Wolfe. "Landscaping by the Numbers"

Respectfully submitted by Steve Byram, Acting Secretary



## CORK

(Excerpted from the Sep-Oct 2010 issue of **Bromelcairns**, newsletter of the Cairns B.S.)

Cork is produced only in the Mediterranean region spread over 1,000 miles: the south of France, Spain, Portugal, Algeria, Corsica and Sardinia. 52% of the annual production is from Portugal, 32% from Spain and 6% from Italy.

It takes almost 25 years to grow a productive Cork Oak tree (*Quercus suber*), to a point where it can yield its first commercially useful bark. The first two harvests produce poorer quality bark. The tree then requires a nine year period to regenerate before it can be stripped again. Cork is stripped in hot summer months when the tree dehydrates and skin becomes loose, and then left in piles for three months to dry out. To improve elasticity and increase flexibility, it is boiled in water to which fungicide has been added. To complete the process it is left to mature in dark cellars for a month. Finally it is trimmed and cut into plants ready for commercial use.

Cork consists of a myriad of 14 sided cells, each of which encapsulates a minuscule amount of air. In one cubic inch of cork there are 200 million of those cells, 50% of which are air. This particular cellular construction makes cork lightweight, buoyant and resistant to moisture and impervious to such things as alcohol, sugar, acids and salts. It is compressible, resilient and chemically inert. The people of the Roman Empire used cork stoppers to seal barrels of wine. Until the mid-17th Century, French wine exporters used oil soaked rags stuffed into bottle necks. Then they discovered wine improved in quality when kept (corked) in bottles so began an industry. Most of the cork industry is in Portugal, in the north of the country near Oporto, the area of the famous Port wine cellars and the manufacture of stoppers remains the basis of the work industry in Portugal. Plastic and screw top stoppers are being used more and more, but it (is) cork that is best suited for bold red wines purchased with the intent to age (them in a bottle).

Cork is used in woodwind instruments to fasten together seams, making them airtight; cork is the core of a baseball, used in spacecraft heat shields, inside footwear to improve climate control, floor tiles, fishing (rod) floats and buoys, handles for fishing rods. Cork is an excellent mounting medium for bromeliads, but in our tropics it is also a popular home for grubs that eat the roots of the plants.



Bromeliads mounted to cork



## BGTB New Member Profile - Jason Beck



Greetings Guild members!

" Bromeliads are like potato chips; you can't have just one!" I'm Jason and very enthused about my recent membership and anxious to meet you all! I am newer to Florida, though not to tropical plants. I am ecstatic about bromeliads and plants in general and am officially a PLANT NUT!!! Aside from bromeliads my main passions are alocasia and colocasia and a host of aroids, begonias, ferns, Nepenthes, musa cultivars and working with around 30 cultivars of Brugmansia, and many heleconia, cannas etc. I am wild about bombastic eye catchers and incorporate a dramatic degree of mixed texture in my beds. I am starting over here in FL and grateful to those of you have helped me out! I live in Hudson and LOVE to talk

plants so please don't be bashful. Call, email me, or message me anytime! I love to trade, share and try new "gems". He who tends his garden deep, understands the secrets it's plants do keep.

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It's time to renew your membership. Please fill out the application/renewal form in this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting or mail it to our Membership Chair, **Julie Lessard, 807 Knight Street, Seffner, FL 33584.**

Your membership expired on April 30.



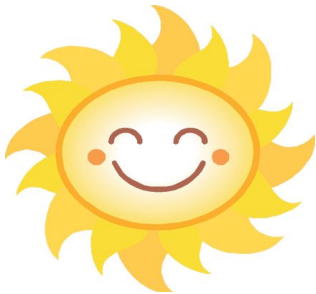
# Meeting Snapshots - April 21, 2014



**MEMBERS ATTENTION:**

**Please make sure your pots and plants are clean with no dirt on the outside of pots and label with nametags.**

## **Sunshine Greetings**



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

Call 813-662-7972 or email at [taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com)



**May Birthdays:** Shari Elfont, Judith Pope-Champagne, Lisa Robinette, Randy Wojahn  
We will have a drawing at the meeting for one of the lucky birthday people to take home a nice bromeliad as a Birthday gift from the club.

Club members celebrating their birthdays also provide the refreshments at our meeting each month. 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 those months. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.



## **Officers for 2014-2015**

**President:** Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 [BromeliadSociety@juno.com](mailto:BromeliadSociety@juno.com)

**Vice President:** Eileen Hart 813-920-2987 [eplants@hotmail.com](mailto:eplants@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Paula Benway 813-985-3584 [paulabenway@aol.com](mailto:paulabenway@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Ray Hernandez 813-832-3561 [subtropicofcancer@hotmail.com](mailto:subtropicofcancer@hotmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Marilyn Byram 813-949-0503 [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)

### **Directors:**

Allen Langworthy

Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 [Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com)

Robert Nelson 813-717-9224 [CRBackfive@aol.com](mailto:CRBackfive@aol.com)

Tom and Sabrina Pride 813-748-7315 [tpride@hotmail.com](mailto:tpride@hotmail.com)

### **Committee Chairs:**

**Publicity:** Bill Carr 813-752-8485 [wcarr1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:wcarr1@tampabay.rr.com)

**Sunshine/Membership:** Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 [Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com)

**Telephone:** Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 [btsgarden@msn.com](mailto:btsgarden@msn.com)

**Raffle:** Shirley Perez 813-920-5595 [shirleyp2@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleyp2@yahoo.com)

**Program:** Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 [BromeliadSociety@juno.com](mailto:BromeliadSociety@juno.com)



### **Bromeliads Online**

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay - [www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/562988247096958/>

Bromeliad Society International— [www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— [www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org)

Bromeliads Online - <http://www.bromeliads.co.nz/index.html>

### **Any Changes?**

If your mailing address, email address, or phone number changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)







# BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY

## Membership Application/Renewal

Memberships: May 1 to April 30 each Year

**Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Second Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Single Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Family Membership

**Make checks payable to BGTB  
Submit with application to:**

**Julie Lessard  
807 Knight St.  
Seffner, FL 33584**

How did you hear about BGTB?

\_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_ Facebook \_\_\_ BGTB Website \_\_\_ Plant Festival or Show

\_\_\_ Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc.**

**Established 1963**

**Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.**

**Plant sales at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

**Where: Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha Center, Rooms 201-202**

**821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa**

**Informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments**

**BGTB is affiliated with 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.**



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**When:** Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.  
Plant sale at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha Center,  
Room 201-202, 821 South Dale Mabry Highway, 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**