

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



June, 2013

BGTB MEETING

JUNE 17, 2013

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

SPEAKER: DON BEADLE

We are honored to have Don Beadle who is affectionately known in the bromeliad world as “Mr. Billbergia” as our June 17th guest speaker.

Don sold his bromeliad nursery on First Dirt Road in Venice to Michael Kiehl about seven years ago. He wanted to take a sabbatical from the rigors of propagating, weed pulling and potting. He bought a boat and with his companion, Joann Buell, enjoyed boating and playing tennis. About a year ago he started yearning to get back into the world of bromeliads. Michael has continued to propagate most on Don’s hybrids so Don has been visiting Michael’s greenhouse a couple days a week to work with his old collection.

Don is an excellent World Conference and Program speaker and a professional grower and hybridizer of Billbergias. An extensive article depicting his life’s history can be seen on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies web site:

FCBS.org;

click on right side: photo index;

On the photo index screen near the bottom, click on Don Beadle

You can also see pictures of his hybrids and the species that they derived from.

It will be great program so don’t miss his presentation!

Tom Wolfe
Program Chair



Minutes, April 15, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Dave Mracek, vice president.

New Member, Bob Sheival was welcomed.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter made by Steve Byram, seconded by Shirley Perez.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Paula Benway reported we have \$615.27 in our checking account plus \$5564.14 in the CD. Total is \$6,179.41. The report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports: Beverly Sisco gave a report from the Florida Council meeting she attended in Miami. There is no club sponsor yet for next year's Extravaganza. Our club is hosting the next Florida Council meeting July 13. While in Miami, they visited the Jeff Block garden. It is well-worth visiting. See <http://blockbotanicalgardens.org>

Old Business: Harriet Gord discussed the baskets that will be raffled at the upcoming show. Decision made to sell 5 tickets for \$1.00, half an arm's length of tickets for \$5.00, and an arm's length for \$10.00.

Volunteers are needed for the bromeliad show this weekend.

Wednesday - Set up at 1:00

Thursday - Enter plants, 1:00-8:00

Friday - Judges' breakfast, 7:30

Sunday - Dismantling, 3:00-3:30

New Business: Our May meeting will be our annual "picnic" and plant auction. Sign-up sheet for food was passed around.

Refreshments and Raffle

Program Dave Johnston critiqued plants members had brought in that were being considered for the Bromeliad Show.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Byram, Secretary

Upcoming Events:

Bromeliad Extravaganza will be September 21 at Indian Rocks Beach.



April 15, 2013 Meeting



Reminder -

BGTB membership dues are due on May 1 each year. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting or mail it to Paula Benway, 1225 N. Riverhills Dr., Temple Terrace, FL 33617.



Bromeliad FAQ

Why does my plant have white crud around the base of the leaves?

Tank bromeliads (those forming a water holding chamber from overlapping leaves), sometimes get a white substance on the outside edges of their leaves near the base. This substance is generally caused by hard water. If the plants are watered with water that is high in mineral content (especially calcium), the minerals can crystalize on the bases of the leaves causing deposits that can injure the leaves. Bromeliads with soft leaves such as *Vrieseas* and *Guzmanias* can be particularly susceptible to hard-water damage. Using rain water or distilled water is an effective solution for this problem.

Another cause might be excessive fertilizer. The nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous salts contained in fertilizers can build up with repeated applications and precipitate into damaging crystals just like hard water. To avoid this problem, don't over-fertilize and flush the water in the cups occasionally to rid them of the salt buildup.

From http://www.bsi.org/brom_info/FAQ.html



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, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, devilled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

May Birthdays: Judith Pope-Champagne, Randy Wojahn

June Birthdays: Phil Elting, Eileen Hart, Allen & Joy Langworthy, Kathleen Ledbetter, Kenneth Stokes



A WORD TO THE WISE

DO NOT BRING BROMELIADS AND ORCHIDS IN THE HOUSE DURING COLD WEATHER!!!

WHY? Because of little grass snakes.

Read on

Garden Grass Snakes also known as Garter Snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) can be dangerous. Yes, grass snakes, not rattlesnakes. Here's why.....

A couple in Sweetwater, Texas, had a lot of bromeliads and orchids. During a recent cold spell, the wife was bringing a lot of them indoors to protect them from a possible freeze.

It turned out that a little green garden grass snake was hidden in one of the bromeliads and when it had warmed up, it slithered out and the wife saw it go under the sofa.

She let out a very loud scream! The husband (who was taking a shower) ran out into the living room naked to see what the problem was. She told him there was a snake under the sofa.

He got down on the floor on his hands and knees to look for it. About that time the family dog came and cold-nosed him on the behind. He thought the snake had bitten him, so he screamed and fell over on the floor. His wife thought he had a heart attack, so she covered him up, told him to lie still and called an ambulance.

The attendants rushed in, wouldn't listen to his protests and loaded him on the stretcher and started carrying him out.

About that time the snake came out from under the sofa and the Emergency Medical Technician saw it and dropped his end of the stretcher.

That's when the man broke his leg and why he is still in the hospital. The wife still had the problem of the snake in the house, so she called on a neighbor man.

He volunteered to capture the snake. He armed himself with a rolled-up newspaper and began poking under the couch. Soon he decided it was gone and told the woman, who sat down on the sofa in relief.

But while relaxing, her hand dangled in between the cushions, where she felt the snake wriggling around. She screamed and fainted, the snake rushed back under the sofa.



The neighbor man, seeing her lying there passed out, tried to use CPR to revive her.

The neighbor's wife, who had just returned from shopping at the grocery store, saw her husband's mouth on the woman's mouth and slammed her husband in the back of the head with a bag of canned goods, knocking him out and cutting his scalp to a point where it needed stitches.

The noise woke the woman from her dead faint and she saw her neighbor lying on the floor with his wife bending over him, so she assumed that he had been bitten by the snake. She went to the kitchen and got a small bottle of whiskey, and began pouring it down the man's throat.

By now the police had arrived. They saw the unconscious man, smelled the whiskey, and assumed that a drunken fight had occurred. They were about to arrest them all, when the women tried to explain how it all happened over a little green snake. The police called an ambulance, which took away the neighbor and his sobbing wife.

The little snake again crawled out from under the sofa. One of the policemen drew his gun and fired at it.

He missed the snake and hit the leg of the end table. The table fell over and the lamp on it shattered and as the bulb broke it started a fire in the drapes. The other policeman tried to beat out the flames, and fell through the window into the yard on top of the family dog who, startled, jumped out and raced into the street, where an oncoming car swerved to avoid it and smashed into the parked police car.

Meanwhile, the burning drapes were seen by the neighbors who called the fire department. The firemen had started raising the fire truck ladder when they were halfway down the street. The rising ladder tore out the overhead wires and put out the electricity and disconnected the telephones in a ten-square city block area (but they did get the house fire out).

Time passed! Men were discharged from the hospital, the house was repaired, the dog came home, the police acquired a new car, and all was right with their world. A while later they were watching TV and the weatherman announced a cold snap for that night. The wife asked her husband if he thought they should bring in their bromeliads and orchids for the night. That's when he shot her.





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 a
member or mail to:**

Paula Benway

1225 N. Riverhills Dr.

Temple Terrace, FL 33617

Referred by:

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, 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.

Officers for 2013-2014

President: Anna Hartman 813-831-5297

Vice President: Verna Dickey 813-685-1055 verna@d@verizon.net

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Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Rhoda Smith of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have. Call 813-839-8344 or email at habitat@tampabay.rr.com.



Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org

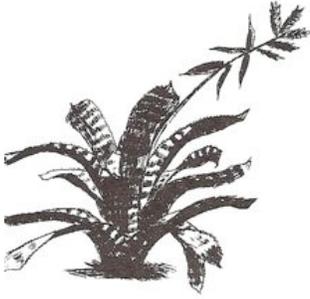
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

Any Changes?

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





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.

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Where: Christ the King Catholic Church, 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**