

# Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



September, 2010



## President's Message

Our many thanks go to Dennis Cathcart for the wonderful presentation he gave us on the work that has gone on and is continuing to go on for the new botanical garden in Singapore, "Gardens by the Bay". His narration was very interesting and informative and the pictures and video were beautiful. Dennis is very much involved with this massive project due to open in November, 2011. Tropiflora nursery has sent thousands of plants and trees over there for the gardens. And, yes, Tropiflora still has plants to sell to us.

As most of you know we are planning a bus trip for our club members on November 6 to Michael's Nursery in Venice, Tropiflora Nursery, and if time permits, Selby Gardens in Sarasota. Dennis Cathcart wants to fix a bar-b-que lunch for us if he gets his large bar-b-que shed repaired. The bus will hold about 55 people and there is room in the storage compartment to put our plants. We will have more info for you at the next meeting. We haven't had a field trip for the club in a while, so let's make this a fun trip.

Respectfully yours,  
Beverly Sisco, President

## BGTB Program

Monday, September 20, 2010

Speaker: Al Muzzell, Gainesville, Florida

Al has a bromeliad business in Gainesville, Florida where he sells out of his greenhouse and at bromeliad events around the State. He has been collecting bromeliads for many years and has a thorough knowledge of the plant family.



This month, Al will be talking about some of the terrestrial types of bromeliads such as Dyckia, Hectia, Deuterocohnia, Orthophytum and Pitcairnia. These are some of the genera most of us know very little about. If you have some of these, bring them to Show and Tell to share with the members.

Don't miss this one! See you there.

Tom Wolfe, Program Chair

## **WORLD CONFERENCE 2010 NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

by Tom Wolfe

Tampa Bay Guild was represented at the World Conference in New Orleans with Marilyn and Steve Byram, Bob and Paula Benway, Herb Hill, Mike O'Leary, Dave Johnston, Randy and Denise Garcia and Randy, Jr., and myself. I'm sorry so many of you missed the 2010 World Conference, "Bromeliads in the Big Easy." The Astor Crowne Plaza Hotel was very nice and easy to get to unless you were bringing in a load of bromeliads through the freight entrance. The speakers were great, the food was delicious, the vendors all did very well and the home tours were a lot of fun and interesting to see how folks grow plants in Louisiana. The rare plant auction netted \$12,000.00 with a Neoregelia hybrid made by Ray Coleman which sold for \$1,200.00. The only disappointing feature was the Judged Show, which was very small for a world conference. Most pleasurable was meeting and fellowshipping with old as well as new friends from around the world which is always the highlight for me.

On Wednesday afternoon, the keynote speaker, Dr. Gregory Brown, from the University of Wyoming, spoke mostly on Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. He had a very positive presentation concerning Selby's financial condition and the latest completed projects and the ones that are slated for the near future. This was followed by an outstanding buffet supper. The next three days flew by with looking, buying, learning and in general having fun. The conference culminated with a banquet of delicious food and fellowship.

I hope all of you plan to attend the next world conference and plan to stay at the host hotel as that is where the action is and you have a much better chance to meet people and attend the functions.



# **Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Minutes of Meeting**

**August 16, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Beverly Sisco.

Visitors, Kathleen and Lily were introduced and new members, Mike and Shelly Sweet were welcomed.

**Secretary's Report:** Correction to Minutes of July 19 Meeting: The upcoming show with the Federation is the 3rd weekend in April rather than the 2nd weekend in April. Steve Byram moved to accept the minutes as corrected, Lyla Shepard seconded the motion.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Paula Benway reported that we have a total of \$12,493.43 in our checking account plus \$10,405.69 in our CD.

**Old Business:** Paula Benway and Verna Dickey volunteered to co-chair the show in April. Paula urged everyone to help when called upon to assist with the show.

We need a volunteer to be the chairman for the Florida State Fair display.

**New Business:** It was announced that a field trip is being planned for November 6. It will be a bus trip to Michael's Bromeliads in Venice and Tropiflora and Marie Selby Gardens in Sarasota. There is only room for 55 on the bus, so members were encouraged to sign up early.

**Announcements:** A copy of the Bromeliad Guild membership roster was available for members to check to make sure information was current. Those whose names were not on the roster have not paid their dues for this year and will no longer receive the newsletter.

We only have 5 or 6 of the Australian Bromeliad books left to sell.

**Door Prize:** The door prize was won by Marylynne Jones.

**Birthday Plant:** The birthday plant was won by Steve Byram.

**Show and Tell:** Plants were shown by Eileen Hart, Paula Benway, and Lyla Shepard. Lyla also brought a grasshopper from her yard.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bob Benway and seconded by Tom Wolfe.

**Break for refreshments.**

**Program:** Dennis Cathcart, owner of Tropiflora, presented a program on the new "Gardens by the Bay" in Singapore.

**Raffle**

Respectfully submitted by  
Steve Byram, Secretary



# Meeting Snapshots



Pre-meeting Plant Sales



Materials for Arrangements



Paula's New Tillandsia



Lyla's Cold-Hardy Neo



Lyla's Pet



Damage by Lyla's Pet



Refreshment Time



Our Speaker, Dennis Cathcart



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## Welcome New Members

Welcome, Mike and Shellie Sweet from Valrico.

## Upcoming Bromeliad Events

October 9-10 USF Fall Plant Festival

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## 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, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, 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.

**September Birthdays:** Verna Dickey, Kay Miller, Beverly Sisco, Walter Stahl, Shellie Sweet



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## 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](mailto:sprins1012@earthlink.net)



## Officers for 2010-2011

President: Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 [btsgarden@msn.com](mailto:btsgarden@msn.com)  
Vice President: Verna Dickey 813-685-1055 [verna1d@verizon.net](mailto:verna1d@verizon.net)  
Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 [paulabenway@aol.com](mailto:paulabenway@aol.com)  
Secretary: Steve Byram 813-949-0503 [byramsteve@gmail.com](mailto:byramsteve@gmail.com)  
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Dave Mracek 813-968-3666 [VENFLDJM@hotmail.com](mailto:VENFLDJM@hotmail.com)  
Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 [BromeliadSociety@juno.com](mailto:BromeliadSociety@juno.com)

## Committee Chairs

Parliamentarian: Lyla Shepard  
Librarians: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey  
Show: Tom Wolfe  
Membership: Eileen Kahl  
Publicity: Bob Teems  
Programs: Tom Wolfe  
Sunshine: Eileen Prins



*Bromeliads at the  
Gaylord Palms Hotel,  
Orlando*

## Bromeliads Online

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)

## Any Changes?

If your mailing address or email address changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or [byramm@verizon.net](mailto: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**