



March 2006

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

This Month's Meeting

Our next meeting will be the **second** Tuesday of this month, March **14**, 2006, at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road, Clearwater. The doors open at 7 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m.

The speaker this month will be Mike O'Leary. Mike's topic will be "20 Bromeliads You Should Have In Your Collection and Why." Mike is an attorney who lives in Clearwater. He has been a member of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay for more than 15 years. Mike does not have a greenhouse and grows all of his bromeliads in the landscape. He last made a very informative presentation to our group at the October, 2001, meeting and brought with him some beautiful plants for sale.

Mike will again bring plants to sell, and he does not mind if others bring in their own plants for sale at the meeting.

Upcoming Events

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

"A Patchwork of Bromeliads" Show & Sale

March 4 + 5, 2006

<http://www.fcbs.org>

Harry P. Leu Gardens Annual Spring Plant Sale

March 25 + 26, 2006

<http://www.leugardens.org/>

Tropiflora's Spring Festival

March 31-April 2, 2006

<http://www.tropiflora.com>

USF Botanic Gardens Spring Plant Festival

April 8 + 9, 2006

<http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden>

Bromeliad Society of South Florida Annual Show and Sale

April 22 + 23, 2006

Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Coral Gables, FL

http://www.ftg.org/publicprograms/n_events.html

REMEMBER

Please bring a friend. Guests are always welcome!!

Bring a **raffle plant!** Plants must have names and be sure they are free of scale.

Bring plants for show & tell.

Bring a plant for the friendship table.

Wear your name tag!



Show & Tell for February 7, 2006

- Phil Budworth: *Neoregelia* 'Kawika' (Shiigi hybrid)
Vriesea 'Hanalea' (Shiigi hybrid)
Vriesea fosteriana 'Selecta'
Aechmea 'Greg' (Bullis hybrid)
- Tommy Crocker: *Guzmania* 'Puna Gold' (variegated)
Billbergia (unknown species or cultivar)
- Jim Fergus: *Neoregelia* 'Green Apple'
Billbergia (unknown stoloniferous species)
Vriesea botafogensis
- Kathy Jenkins: *Aechmea bromeliifolia*
Aechmea caudata
- Dave Johnston: *Billbergia* 'Diane'
Guzmania 'Kapoho Fire' (variegated form)
Neoregelia carolinae x
N. concentrica (variegated form)
Neoregelia ampullacea x *fluminensis*
Cryptanthus 'Cosmic Storm'
- Alton Lee: *Cryptanthus* 'Evon'
Billbergia 'Windii'
Billbergia 'Beryl Allen'
Aechmea winkleri
Aechmea 'Valencia'
- Gyula Nemeth: *Aechmea nidularioides*
Aechmea 'Foster's Favorite'
- Helga Tarver: *Tillandsia ionantha*
Tillandsia gardneri
Tillandsia gardneri var. *rupicola*
Tillandsia bulbosa
Guzmania lingulata 'Superb'
Billbergia 'Fantasia' (?)



Neoregelia 'Chiquita Linda'
lilliputiana X 'Fireball'
 Mature plant is just 3½" high

Greeters

Nancy and Jack Dennis are the new FWCBS Greeters for this year. When you bring a guest to the meetings, let Nancy and Jack know. They will help introduce your guest to our society.

Refreshments

Bill & Marianne Schumacher are in charge of the refreshments. Food for the refreshment table is being provided this month by Adelle Blackman and Sharon Philyaw. If you would also like to bring a dish for the refreshment table, don't forget to pick up a free raffle ticket at the front door.



Horticultural Tips

If you have collected driftwood in sea water for mounting bromeliads, there is no need to let the salt leach out before mounting the plants. Several bromeliad enthusiasts report they have found no plant damage using driftwood in that manner. If in doubt, leave the wood out in the rain and in an area in the yard that gets good irrigation coverage, and that will enhance leaching out salt present in the wood.

A dehydrated plant can be renewed by submerging it in a pail of sugar water for several hours or even overnight. Mix one cup sugar to a pail of water. Do not use a galvanized container for long periods because of possible harmful effects. The treatment also works with orchids and ferns.