

# FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2017

*Celebrating over 63 Years in Bromeliads*

*fwcbs.org*



## March 2017 Newsletter

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### NEXT MEETING

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**Date & Time:**

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

Doors open at 7 pm; meeting starts at 7:30

**Location:**

Good Samaritan Church

6085 Park Boulevard

Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

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**Program**

**Tom Wolfe** will give a presentation titled *Unique Ways to Display Your Bromeliads*. He will talk about decorative containers, artistic arrangements, mounting plants on wood, cork and tree fern, and other related topics. Tom has been a member of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay (BGTB) since 1965 and has held many positions in the Guild including six terms as President. Since 1982 he has been an accredited Bromeliad Society International bromeliad judge and is now a Master Judge. He has designed and installed many residential and commercial landscapes featuring bromeliads. Tom and his wife Carol live in Lutz and grow their bromeliads on their 2.5 acres of land and greenhouses.

**Plant Sales**

The speaker will be the sole bromeliad vendor for the evening.

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### LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

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**Program**

In his presentation titled *Bromeliad Names: Why Is It Called That?* **Alton Lee** explained the origins of the names for 12 of the more commonly grown bromeliad genera. He stated that most bromeliads are named to honor discoverers or botanists while others are composed of Latin or Greek words that are descriptive of some feature(s) of the genus. Latinized names given to some species define a characteristic of the bromeliad such as *fasciata* meaning marked transversely with broad parallel stripes of color, or banded, (as in *Aechmea fasciata*) and *streptophylla* meaning with twisted leaves (*Tillandsia streptophylla*). Here are the 12 genera and their name origins.

- *Aechmea*: from the Greek word “aichme” (a spear); pronounced EEK-mee-uh or eek-MEE-uh
- *Billbergia*: named for Gustave Johannes Billberg (1772-1844), Swedish botanist
- *Canistrum*: from the Greek word “kanistron” (a kind of basket carried on the head)
- *Catopsis*: from the Greek “kata” (hanging down) and “opsis” (appearance)

- *Cryptanthus*: from the Greek words “cryptos” (hidden) and “anthos” (flower)
- *Guzmania*: named for Anastasio Guzman (17??-1807), Spanish pharmacist and naturalist
- *Neoregelia*: named for Edouard August von Regel (1815-1892), a director of the St. Petersburg Botanic Gardens, Russia
- *Nidularium*: from the Latin words “nidus” (nest) and “arius” (pertaining to)
- *Portea*: named for Dr. Marius Porte, French naturalist
- *Quesnelia*: named for M. Quesnel, French consul to French Guiana
- *Tillandsia*: named for Dr. Elias Erici Tillandz (1640-1693), Swedish physician and botanist
- *Vriesea*: named for Willem Hendrik de Vriese (1806-1862), Dutch botanist and physician

Name origins for the remaining bromeliad genera can be found on the BSI website [http://www.bsi.org/brom\\_info/genera.html](http://www.bsi.org/brom_info/genera.html), under the title *General Etymology*. Definitions for other botanical terms can be found in the publication *A Bromeliad Glossary* (1977, revised 1998) published by the Bromeliad Society International and the *Glossary of Bromeliad Terms*, a downloadable file found on the Bromeliad Society International (BSI) website at <http://www.fcbs.org/articles/Glossary.htm>. These last two both include appendices with drawings and names of bromeliad parts, and the second one includes a work sheet to use when trying to identify bromeliads that are hard to identify and a color chart to use when describing color as related to bromeliads.

## SHOW AND TELL

*Reviewed by Helga Tarver*

Alton Lee

- *Aechmea chantinii*, unknown hybrid (photo below); reportedly by Bullis
- *Vriesea* hybrid (photo below); produced by Herb Hill for the European market which, according to Alton, rejected it because the inflorescence is too tall and too pink for their preferences.



*Aechmea chantinii* hybrid



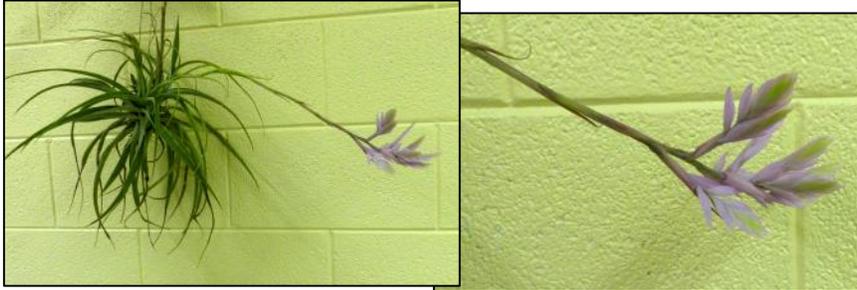
*Vriesea* hybrid

Alvaro Maranhao

- *Tillandsia cacticola* (photo below)

Franne Matwijczyk

- *Nidularium atalaiaense* (photo below)
- *Nidularium* unknown species or hybrid



*Tillandsia cacticola*



*Nidularium atalaiaense*

Kathy Risley

- *Neoregelia* 'Fay's Big Purple'
- *Aechmea racinae*, red form
- *Aechmea* 'Red Ribbon'

Richard Poole

- *xBiltanthus* 'Red Burst' (photo below); a cross between the two genera *Billbergia* and *Cryptanthus*, this bromeliad was formerly known as *xCryptbergia* 'Red Burst'. The name was changed after Derek Butcher (former BSI Cultivar Registrar) discovered that the first publication to identify the cross, in 1947, used the name *xBiltanthus*, thereby giving it precedence over *xCryptbergia*.

Janet Stoffels

- Floral arrangement with *xAndrolaechmea* 'O'Rourke' inflorescences (photo below)



*xBiltanthus* 'Red Burst'

*xAndrolaechmea*  
'O'Rourke' inflorescences



Barb Gardner and Nicole Matwiczky

Barb, assisted by Nicole, gave a short tutorial on the basics of *Cryptanthus* and showed the following *Cryptanthus* from Nicole's collection:

- *Cryptanthus fosterianus* (photo below)
- *Cryptanthus* 'Thriller' (photo below)
- *Cryptanthus* 'Betty Ann Prevatt' (photo below)
- *Cryptanthus* 'Peachy Keen' (photo below)
- *Cryptanthus argyrophyllus* (photo below)
- *Cryptanthus* 'Strawberry Flambé'
- *Cryptanthus warasii*



*Cryptanthus fosterianus*



*Cryptanthus* 'Thriller'



*Cryptanthus* 'Betty Ann Prevatt'



*Cryptanthus* 'Peachy Keen'



*Cryptanthus argyrophyllus*

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#### THIS AND THAT

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#### ***Art in Bloom* Show, March 30 thru April 3**

Our society has been invited to participate in the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts annual *Art in Bloom* show this March 30 through April 3. This is the 20th year for the show in which the galleries and the gardens come alive with about 40 floral designs by professional florists and talented hobbyists. The displays are typically assorted floral arrangements, each set up near a piece of art that inspired the particular arrangement. Our display will be on the order of a live bromeliad 'garden' and will be located in the sculpture garden in one of the inner courtyards. A sign inside the museum, near the entrance to the courtyard, will direct museum visitors to our display, and a sign in front of our display will identify our group as the exhibitors.

There are a series of programs associated with the show, one of which is “Conversations with the Designers” on Sunday, April 1, between 2 and 4. During this program, a couple of our members will be at the display to answer questions people may have about bromeliads and to hand out bromeliad horticultural brochures that include information about our meetings. For more information about museum hours and admission, go to the museum’s website--<http://mfastpete.org/>. For show information, scroll down the page and click on the ‘Art in Bloom 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary’ icon.

**Janet Stoffels, MFA Floral Arrangement**

On the right is the most recent floral arrangement member Janet Stoffels has made for the Museum of Fine Arts, which they display in their lobby. Janet always incorporates one or more bromeliad, such as the two *Aechmea mexicana* inflorescences in this one. The MFA has dedicated a pedestal for her arrangements to sit upon with a plaque (see below) that identifies her as the designer/arranger.



*Aechmea mexicana* inflorescences

**New Member**

We have another new member, David Liebl (picture on right), who joined in February. Welcome, David.




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**BLOOMING THIS MONTH**

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Submitted by Barb Gardner



*Vriesea* ‘Margarita’



*Dyckia* ‘Cherry Coke’

## UPCOMING EVENTS, 2017

### March 11-12, Leu Gardens Spring Plant Sale

Harry P. Leu Gardens, Orlando, FL (<http://www.leugardens.org>)

### March 25-26, GreenFest Plant Sale

University of Tampa, Tampa, FL ([friendsofplantpark.com/greenfest](http://friendsofplantpark.com/greenfest))

### March 31, April 1-2, Tropiflora's Spring Festival

Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota, 941-351-2267 ([tropiflora.com](http://tropiflora.com))

### April 8-9, USF Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Sale

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL ([cas.usf.edu/garden](http://cas.usf.edu/garden))

### April 22-23, Green Thumb Festival

Walter Fuller Park, St. Petersburg, FL ([stpeteparksrec.org/greenthumb](http://stpeteparksrec.org/greenthumb))

### April 22-23, Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society Sale

Sanford Garden Club, Sanford, FL (407-539-4314)

### August 4-6, 2017, Bromeliad Extravaganza<sup>®</sup>, 'Bromeliads by the Bay'

Clarion Hotel, 4710, 2701 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL; Hosted by the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Tampa, FL (<http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org/new>)

### August 19-20, Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society Sale

Sanford Garden Club, Sanford, FL (407-539-4314)

## 2017 FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Website: [FWCBS.org](http://FWCBS.org)

Webmaster: John Edwards, [JOHNRN56@aol.com](mailto:JOHNRN56@aol.com)