

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2019

Celebrating over 65 Years in Bromeliads

fwcbs.org



March 2019 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Date & Time: Tuesday, March 5, 2019; 7:30 pm
Location: Good Samaritan Church
6085 Park Boulevard
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

PROGRAM

Mary Sue Beeler will review her recent trip to Gardens by the Bay in Singapore. Opened in 2012, the gardens have received world acclaim for their engineering and landscape design. They are home to the world's largest greenhouse, the world's tallest indoor waterfall, and one of the largest tropical plant collections. The amazing Supertree Grove boasts 16-story structures covered in bromeliads and other tropical plants along with an aerial walkway. The gardens share a close association with our area: FWCBS members Dennis and Linda Cathcart supplied a huge amount of bromeliads and other plants to the project, and the late Harry Luther assisted in the installation.

LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

Ray Lemieux from Tropiflora Nursery in Sarasota talked to us about the variety of bromeliads in the genus *Tillandsia* and had two, 6-foot-long tables packed with examples that he showed us.



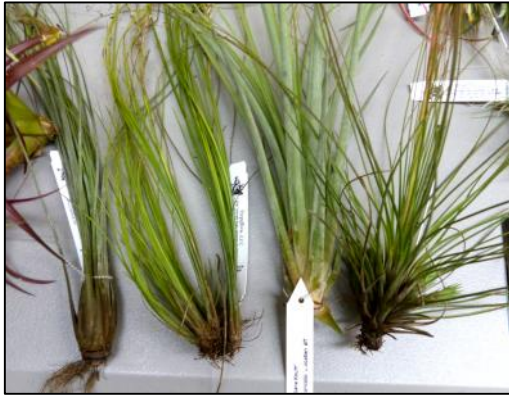
Ray showed us several examples of pendant Tillandsias that tend to be saxicolous (growing on rocks, with roots in the rocks) and grow in full sun. They can cover hillsides and cliffs that appear to be carpeted in red and orange when these plants are in bloom. One of these is *Tillandsia funckiana*, of which several clones are shown on the right, along with a cluster of a clone from Herb Hill, far right.



Tillandsia funckiana clones



Other examples of the variability of Tillandsias include *Tillandsia juncea* pictured below on the left and the group of *Tillandsia ionantha* shown in the two photos on the right.



Tillandsia juncea clones



Tillandsia ionantha clones



Tillandsia ionantha
Honduras

Below are examples of different forms of *Tillandsia capitata*.



Tillandsia capitata Morron



Tillandsia capitata
Orange



Tillandsia capitata Rubra

Ray showed Tillandsias that prefer no medium or soil such as those pictured below.



Tillandsia ehlersiana



Tillandsia 'Cotton Candy'



Tillandsia chiapensis



Tillandsia novakii



Tillandsia hildae

And then there are those Tillandsias that grow best in a regular bromeliad mix such as *Tillandsia hildae*, pictured on the right.

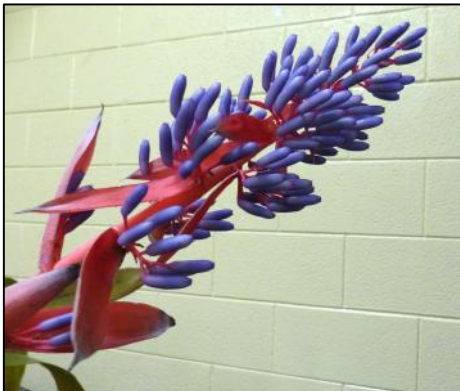
Ray stated that in general most Tillandsias grow in hot environments and full to bright light, and some prefer filtered light. His rule of thumb is that those with shiny leaves such as *Tillandsia bulbosa* prefer some shade and a bit more water while those with silver leaves can take more sun. For those grown in plastic pots, he suggested fertilizing once a week in the summer and never in the winter, and watering two times a week in the summer and once a week in the winter.

SHOW AND TELL

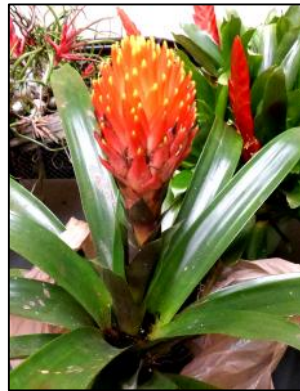
- | | |
|------------------|---|
| John Edwards | <i>Portea alatisepala</i> (photo below) |
| Ray Gurgui | <i>Tillandsia bulbosa</i> , clusters on a branch and in a basket |
| Alton Lee | <i>Vriesea</i> hybrid
<i>Guzmania conifera</i> (photo below) |
| Alvaro Maranhao | <i>Pitcairnia smithiorum</i> (photo below) |
| Frane Matwiczcyk | <i>Aechmea recurvata</i>
<i>Neoregelia 'Hummel'</i> hybrid
<i>Tillandsia intermedia</i> |

- Dave Johnston *Neoregelia* 'Debbie' variegata by Grant Groves
Neoregelia carolinae variegata, Chester Skotak seed plant
Guzmania 'Gasparilla', Herb Hill squarossa hybrid
Guzmania 'Abigail', squarossa hybrid
Goudaea (formerly *Vriesea*) *ospinae* variegated
 (photos of these five are below)
- Karen Mills *Tillandsia juncea*
- Phil Monnig *Aechmea recurvata*
- Jose Rosado *Tillandsia flavobracteata* (photo below)
- Leo Sandman X *Neophytum* 'Burgundy Hill'; Herb Hill hybrid of *Neoregelia* 'Royal Burgundy' x *Orthophytum navioides*
- Linda Sheetz *Vriesea* hybrid with multiple bloom stalks from one plant (photo below)
Vriesea hybrid
- Janet Stoffels Various bloom stalks for her flower arrangements

SHOW AND TELL PLANTS



Portea alatisepala



Guzmania conifera



Pitcairnia smithiorum



Neoregelia 'Debbie' variegata



Neoregelia carolina variegata



Guzmania 'Gasparilla'



Guzmania 'Abaqail'



Goudea ospinae variegated



Tillandsia flavobracteata



Vriesea hybrid



Close-up of *Vriesea* hybrid showing three stalks from one plant

THIS AND THAT

New Members

Two people joined our society 2019 at the February meeting. They are Aimee Jackson and Mona Shuster, pictured on the right. Welcome, ladies.



Aimee



Mona

Deuterocohnia brevispicata Update

Last year, Gary Lund submitted a picture of his *Deuterocohnia brevispicata*, shown on the right, for the June 2018 newsletter. It was noted that this bromeliad has the rare habit of continuing to produce flowers on an old bloom stalk, several times a year and for many years to come. Knowing this, Gary did not remove the old stalk, even though it appeared to be dead, and removed only clumps of the remaining old flowers to provide more places for new sprouts.



Deuterocohnia brevispicata, 2018

Gary has now submitted pictures of this same plant, shown below, that has, indeed, produced more flowers on the old stalk.



Deuterocohnia brevispicata, 2019

IN THE GARDEN THIS MONTH

Photos submitted by Richard Poole



Aechmea bromeliifolia



Billbergia hybrid, Bill Simms, No. 14/08; flower close-up



Ursulaea macvaughii

Photos submitted by Gary Lund.



Tillandsia hybrid with close-up of flower

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2019

March 9-10, Leu Gardens Spring Plant Sale

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

March 30-31, Tampa Garden Fest Plant Sale (formerly GreenFest Plant Sale)

Tampa Garden Club, Tampa, FL (tampagardenclub.com/tampagardenfest)

April 5-7, Tropiflora's Spring Festival

Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota, 941-351-2267 (tropiflora.com)

April 13-14, USF Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Sale

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL (cas.usf.edu/garden)

April 13-14, Seminole Bromeliad Society and Tropical Plant Society Annual Spring Sale

The Garden Club of Sanford, Sanford, FL (www.sanfordgardenclub.com/sbtps)

April 27-28, Green Thumb Festival

Walter Fuller Park, St. Petersburg, FL (stpeteparksrec.org/greenthumb)

May 10-12, Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Annual Mother's Day Show and Sale

Fashion Square Mall, Orlando, FL (www.bromeliadorslando.com/activities)

August 17-18, Seminole Bromeliad Society and Tropical Plant Society Annual Fall Sale

The Garden Club of Sanford, Sanford, FL (www.sanfordgardenclub.com/sbtps)

September 20-21, Bromeliad Extravaganza[®]

Orlando, FL, Hosted by Bromeliad Society of Central Florida (www.BromeliadX.com)

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