

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2018

Celebrating over 64 Years in Bromeliads

fwcbs.org



June 2018 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 5, 2018; 7:30 pm
Location: Good Samaritan Church
6085 Park Boulevard
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

PROGRAM

Marty Baxley and **Dave Johnston** will do a 'tag-team' presentation titled *How to Turn a Hobby into a Bromeliad Business*. They will each present their own story about how they got started in bromeliads and what led them to where they are today. We can learn from them which things have worked and which have not and apply those lessons in our own bromeliad horticultural efforts.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

Last month was our Annual Bromeliad Auction, and our thanks go to all who donated bromeliads, bromeliad-related items and food for the refreshment table, and who bid on and bought plants. Special recognition goes to Susan Sousa, who did her usual marvelous job of organizing the event, and to those who volunteered to help out during the evening. While we had a slightly smaller-than-usual turnout for the event, revenues were on a par with previous auctions, and the quantity and quality of food were up to the traditional high standard. (Photo below by Nicole Matwijczyk.)



Cashiers Gary Lund, Barbara Stayer, and Susan Sousa (pictured on the right) registered bidders and kept track of the finances. Barb Gardner and Suzanne Bogacki managed the silent auction.



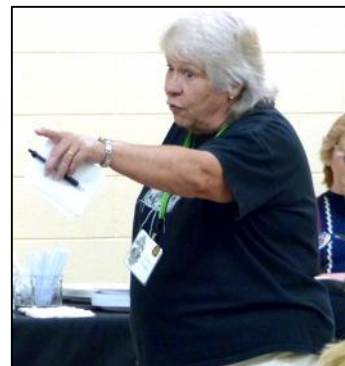
Three auctioneering teams worked in pairs (pictured below) with one person describing the plant (Alton Lee, Dave Johnston, and Michael Kiehl) and the other (Ashley Graham, Dick Dailey, and Kathy Risley) coaxing maximum bids from bidders.



Team Alton Lee and Ashley Graham



Team Dave Johnston and Dick Dailey



Team Michael Kiehl and Kathy Risley

Runners (pictured below) covered a lot of floor space moving about the audience to be sure everyone had a good look at the items up for bid.



Karen Mills



Mary Sue Beeler



Nancy Schmidt



Kathleen Steil

Below are pictures of some of the outstanding bromeliads and other items in the live auction.



Neoregelia 'Bodacious'



Neoregelia 'Magali'



Neoregelia 'Nelson'



Neoregelia retrorsa



Aechmea 'Blue Tango' variegated



Neoregelia viridovinosa



Garden Triangle, a copperplate etching by Stephen Littlefield, artist proof



xVriecantarea 'Inferno'



Aechmea nudicaulis 'Silver Streak'

And below are pictures of items in the silent auction.



THIS AND THAT

New Member

We have a new member, Dennis Hoffman, who joined at the last meeting. Dennis is also an avid day lily enthusiast and grower and is active in the local day lily society.



BLOOMING THIS MONTH

Photos submitted by Gary Lund.



Aechmea 'Del Mar'



Tillandsia tectorum



*Deuterocohnia brevispicata**

*Derek Butcher (former BSI Bromeliad Cultivar Register) with the Bromeliad Society of South Australia provided some information about Gary's *Deuterocohnia brevispicata* pictured above. It has the peculiar habit of continuing to produce flowers several times a year and for many years. It is one of the very few bromeliads that have this feature. A specimen of this species in a botanical garden in Heidelberg is reported to have flowered for up to at least 20 years. Growers are advised not to remove a stalk that appears to be dead because a few months later new sprouts will appear. Clumps of old flowers remaining on the stalk can be removed to provide more places for new sprouts. The plant rarely produces offshoots so propagation by means of seeds is the best method for reproduction.

Deuterocohnia brevispicata is native to Bolivia and grows in montane dry forests or on bare steep slopes at 3,900 to 7,200 feet above sea level. It is pollinated by hummingbirds.

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2018

June 22-23, Tropiflora Nursery Annual Summer Sale

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

June 23-24, USF Botanical Gardens Summer Plant Festival

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

August 18-19, Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society Sale

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

October 5-7, Tropiflora Nursery Fall Festival

Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota (tropiflora.com/events)

October 13-14, USF Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Festival

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

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