

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER July 2010



JULY MEETING

Date & Time:

Tuesday, July 6th, 2010

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

Location:

Hope Presbyterian Church
1698 South Belcher Road
Clearwater, Florida 33764

Program

Dennis Cathcart, FWCBS member and owner of TropiFlora Nursery in Sarasota, will talk about, and show pictures of, Singapore's Gardens by the Bay. Dennis has been providing bromeliads for the gardens for the last several years and will, as usual, have a full program of pictures. Another FWCBS member, Harry Luther, is now the Assistant Director/Horticulture at the Gardens by the Bay. Harry was formerly the Director of the Milford B. Foster Bromeliad Identification Center at the Marie Selby Gardens in Sarasota.

JUNE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Program

Tom Wolfe's presentation, *An Expedition through Longwood Gardens*, was about Roberto Burle Marx (1909-1994), one of the most important landscape architects of the 20th century, Longwood Gardens, and one of the gardens there that Burle Marx designed. Longwood Gardens, located in southern Pennsylvania, covers 1,050 acres of gardens, woodlands, and meadows. It is considered to be one of the premier botanical gardens in the United States. The gardens were formerly the private estate of Pierre du Pont who in 1937 founded the Longwood Foundation, which was subsequently chartered with running Longwood Gardens for the general education and enjoyment of the public. Longwood consists of 20 indoor and 20 outdoor gardens. In 1992, Burle Marx redesigned the indoor Cascade Gardens, which feature bromeliads clinging to the walls and covering the ground. As suggested by the name, and shown in the pictures below, this garden has abundant water features with water cascading into clear pools.



Burle Marx was a modern nature artist and public urban space designer and is credited with introducing modernist landscape architecture to Brazil. He was also a painter, print maker, ecologist, naturalist, artist and musician. He designed gardens and landscapes for public municipal buildings and hotels around the world, including some along Biscayne Boulevard in downtown Miami. The new Naples Botanical Garden in Naples, Florida, has what is reported to be the only original Burle Marx ceramic mural in the United States. ⇒ ⇒



Burle Marx mural at the Naples Botanical Garden

In addition to his design and artistic work, Burle Marx was as much a botanist as a landscape architect, though largely self-taught. He discovered many plants in the Brazilian jungles and was one of the world's leading experts on bromeliads, ten of which were named for him. His estate in Rio de Janeiro is now a national landmark and tourist attraction with more than 3,500 plant species.

Show and Tell

Barret Bassick

Til. ionantha 'Handgrenade'; *Aec. nudicaulis* var. *flavomarginata*; *Bil.* 'Hallelujah'

Robert Herberich

Neo. 'Blushing Tiger'

Dave Johnston

Aec. nudicaulis 'Seidel'; *Aec. chantinii* "Shogun"

Alton Lee

Aec. (species unknown); *Bil. brasiliensis*

Jim Lockwood

Til. didisticha; *Til. juncea*

Kathy Lockwood

Pitcairnia feliciana; *Til. utriculata* (?)

Helga Tarver

Til. 'Curly Slim'; *Til. didisticha*; *Til. ionantha* 'Mexican Blushing Bride'; *Til.* 'Showtime' (*T. bulbosa* x *T. streptophylla*); *Til. compressa*; *Til. streptocarpa* (fragrant); *Neo.* 'America'; *Neo.* 'Magali'



Til. streptocarpa (fragrant)



Pitcairnia feliciana



Aec. chantinii 'Shogun'



Aec. nidularium var. *flavomarginata*

THIS AND THAT

Deepest Sympathies

On Thursday, June 24th, FWCBS member Arline Bean passed away at the age of 91. Arline is the former mother-in-law of FWCBS member Jim Lockwood whose wife Kathy is also a FWCBS member. According to Kathy, Arline went into the hospital for surgery, after which she had a heart attack. We offer Jim and Kathy and their families our deepest sympathies.

New Members

We welcome new members Alejandro Marrer and Michael Duke who joined at the June meeting.

Speedy Recovery Wishes

Members Bob Dalzell and Bill Schumacher both had surgery in late May. Our wishes go to them for a quick and full recovery.

Additional May Auction Donors

The names of some who donated plants to our annual auction in May were inadvertently omitted in the last newsletter. Those would be Bob Albanese, Robert Herberich, and Dave Johnston. Again, thanks to them and all the others who helped make the auction a success.

Upcoming Events

It's almost here! The 19th World Bromeliad Conference is July 26 thru August 1 in New Orleans, LA. Go to www.bsi.org/events for more information. We hope to see you there.

Newsletter Editor, Linda Sheetz, lsheetz@tampabay.rr.com

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society, P.O. Box 4185, Clearwater, FL 33758