

# FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2009



## AUGUST MEETING

### Date/Time:

Tuesday, August 4, 2009  
Doors open at 7 pm; meeting starts at 7:30.

### Location:

Hope Presbyterian Church  
1698 South Belcher Road  
Clearwater, Florida 33764

### Program:

**Dean Fairchild** will give a talk titled "What You Always Wanted to Know about Bromeliads but Didn't Know Whom to Ask." He will ask the members for questions they have about bromeliads. Members should bring one or more plants they want to discuss. Dean has been involved with bromeliads since the 1960s and is currently a member of the Central Florida Bromeliad Society. He has created over 2,000 hybrids, is a BSI Master Judge, and a Past President and Coordinator of the 1988 BSI World Conference held in Miami, Florida.

### Refreshments:

The August refreshment volunteers are Andy and Sharon Philyaw, Bob Powell, and Bill and Marianne Schumacher. Remember, when you contribute food to the refreshment table, you are entitled to a free raffle ticket.

## JULY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**Ray LeMieux** gave an informative, hands-on presentation about propagating bromeliads by seed, techniques for enhancing production of pups, methods for mounting plants on wood, and types of planting media (i.e. soil mixtures) used for terrestrial versus epiphytic bromeliads. Even some of our resident experts present in the audience learned something new from the presentation. Ray has been interested in bromeliads for 15 years, 14 of which have been spent working at TropiFlora Nursery in Tallavast, Florida, where his special interest has been Dyckias and Hechtias and he is now in charge of the succulent section at the nursery. His plant *Dyckia reitzii* rubra form, "Snaggletooth", won Best of Show in the recent Sarasota Bromeliad Society show.



Seed Propagation



Mounting Plants

### Show and Tell

Barret Bassick: *Til. limbata* x *Til. polystachia* (B. Timm hybrid); *Bil.* (unknown species or cultivar)  
Tommy Crocker: *Til. capitata* (giant yellow form)  
Gary Lund: *Aec.* 'Del Mar'; *Aec. aquilega*; *Aec. eurycorymbus*; *Aec. mulfordii* 'Rubra'  
Bob Powell: *Neo.* 'Lou Wilson'  
Kathy Risley: *Neo.* 'Tiger Cub'; *Neo. ampullacea*; *Neo.* 'Hannibal Lector'  
Linda Sheetz: *Vr.* 'Splenet'



*Til. fasciculata* 'Magnificent'



*Neo.* 'Lou Wilson'



*Aec. eurycorymbus*

### Raffle Table

Gary Lund generously donated to the raffle table the four bromeliads he brought with him for Show and Tell. They were a welcome addition to the quality and quantity of plants on the table available to those participating in the monthly raffle. We thank him and the other members who also donated to the raffle table.

### **THIS AND THAT**

#### Birthday News

Dr. Helen Dexter, one of our long-time members, celebrated her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday in July. She and her late husband, Dr. Morris Dexter, were driving forces in promoting, growing, and hybridizing bromeliads for over 40 years. We wish Helen many more happy years to come.

#### Bromeliad and Nursery Equipment Sale

Sadly, Larry Lord is moving out of the state soon. Our group will miss him. Due to the move, he is selling all his bromeliads and related growing equipment and supplies. Items for sale include the following:

- Greenhouse, 30 feet x 96 feet (Conley's Greenhouse Manufacturing, Cold Frame model); comes with a special roof covering, ground covering, and some shade cloth
- Hard plastic benches
- Growing pots, all sizes
- Bromeliads (mostly Neos and Aechmeas)

If you are interested, call Larry at 352-544-7086.

See you at the August meeting.

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