

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2018

Celebrating over 64 Years in Bromeliads

fwcbs.org



November Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Date & Time: Tuesday, November 6, 2018; 7:30 pm
Location: Good Samaritan Church
6085 Park Boulevard
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

PROGRAM

Stephen Littlefield will be the speaker at the next meeting with a presentation titled *Bromeliad Images*. As an artist who paints and does print making (e.g., mezzotint, woodblock, linoleum), he has translated his love of bromeliads into subjects of his artwork. In his talk, he will illustrate how bromeliads “reveal themselves to our eyes in different light, as captured in his initial exposure to the fascinating plants that are a past and current visual focus”.

He and his wife Kathy Risley are long-time members of our society. Last year he was honored with our society’s Membership Service Award for his contributions to FWC and the bromeliad world through his artistic talents that have helped expand the bromeliad brand and increase awareness of these plants. Steve has won many awards for his bromeliad art in art competitions at bromeliad shows, including BSI World Bromeliad Conferences (WBCs) and Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies Bromeliad Extravaganzas. He designed our society’s logo (see the header above) and has designed posters for the WBCs. He also prints his bromeliad art on T-shirts, sweatshirts, tank tops and tote bags that he sells at bromeliad events.

For the last 27 years Steve has been a fixture at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center where he founded their printmaking program and was a teacher for 25 of those years. He has retired from teaching now but is still active at the arts center where he continues his craft and exhibits his art work at group shows and solo exhibitions.

Steve and Kathy will have some bromeliad-printed T-shirts, wine and beverage glasses and cutting boards with Steve’s bromeliad artwork on them for sale at the meeting.

2019 Officers and Trustee Election

At the November meeting members will vote on a slate of nominees for our 2018 officers and trustee, as follows:

President	Barbara Gardner
Vice President	Richard Poole
Secretary	Brian Corey
Treasurer	Gary Lund
Trustee	Karen Mills (three-year term, 2019 through 2021)

Additional candidates may be added to the slate, with permission of the nominee, any time before the voting takes place. If you want to make a nomination or run for one of these offices yourself, please contact Susan Sousa, Nominating Committee Chairman, at susansousa1@yahoo.com. Nominees elected from the slate presented in November will serve on our 2018 Board of Directors along with four others: Judy Lund and Joe Ventimiglia (the two other trustees currently serving overlapping three-year terms), Dick Dailey as Immediate Past President, and Linda Sheetz, Newsletter Editor.

Bus Trip to the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Sale

Our society is sponsoring a bus trip to the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society sale on Saturday, December 1 in Fort Myers. The cost to members is only \$20 and should be paid at the November meeting to secure a seat. If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact trip organizer Ashley Graham (email adglaw@gmail.com or phone 727-501-2872) about how to get a payment to her. After spending time at the CBS sale, the bus will make a lunch stop and then on the way home make a stop at Tropiflora Nursery in Sarasota. Details have been previously provided to you by email and will also be available at the November meeting.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM

Jay Thurrott presented a program on *Growing Bromeliads in Northern California-a Visit to Some Hobbyists' Gardens*. On a recent trip to California, Jay and his wife Calandra visited their daughter who is a member of the Bromeliad Society of San Francisco. She had arranged for them to visit a number of private home gardens for several members in the San Francisco society and other bromeliad growers a little further to the north. Among them were Wesley Schilling (who is a former member of our society and worked for Mulford Foster), Casper Curto and Darryl Ducharme, Herald Charns, and Chet Blackburn.

During his visit to their gardens, Jay saw a number of bromeliads that were larger and brighter than the same ones grown in Florida. He showed us pictures of the following bromeliads as examples of this difference.

Aechmea ampla
Aechmea andersonii
Aechmea caudata variegated
Aechmea 'Excelsior'
Aechmea recurvata (esp. Aztec Gold)
Neoregelia 'Ardie'
Deuterocohnia brevifolia

Dyckia 'Cherry Coke'
Neoregelia 'Guinea'
Puya mirabilis
Tillandsia confertifolia
Tillandsia tectorum
foliage *Vrieseas*

The primary reasons for the differences are temperature and precipitation. In Florida, our summer season is hot and rainy and our winter is cool and dry. In California summers are hot and dry and winters are cool to cold and rainy. A third factor is land elevation which is fairly flat in Florida when compared to some of the elevations in mid- to northern parts of California.

Jay also saw some bromeliads such as *Tillandsia punctulata* and *Neoregelia cyanea* that can grow in Florida but with great difficulty. He also saw *Fascicularia tamot* and *Tillandsia somnians* which he says he has not seen in Florida.

SHOW AND TELL

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| Dick Dailey | <i>Dyckia domfelicianensis</i> (photo below) |
| Sandy Holloway | <i>Neoregelia</i> 'Magali' |
| Franne Matwijczyk | <i>Wallisia cyanea</i> (formerly <i>Tillandsia cyanea</i>)
<i>Neoregelia imperfecta</i> (which Franne admitted needed more light; photo below) |
| Karen Mills | <i>Neoregelia</i> 'Magali' variegated (photo below) |



Dyckia domfelicianensis



Neoregelia imperfecta



Neoregelia 'Magali' variegated

THIS AND THAT

USF Fall Plant Sale, October 13-14

Franne Matwijczyk organized our society's booth at the recent USF Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Sale. She and members Marty Baxley, Ray Gurgui, and Nicole Matwijczyk sold plants and Jose Rosado and Joe Ventimiglia helped with the sales and set up and break down of the booth. Franne sent the pictures below of the booth and three of the sellers.



Sellers Marty Baxley, Ray Gurgui, Nicole Matwijczyk

Celebration for Linda and Dennis Cathcart

On October 8th, the Sarasota Bromeliad Society (SBS) hosted an event at the Marie Selby Gardens in Sarasota to celebrate, honor, and thank Linda and Dennis Cathcart for all they have given to the bromeliad world over the years. Linda and Dennis own the world-renown Tropiflora Nursery in Sarasota and are longtime members of FWCBS and a number of other societies. Ten FWCBS members attended the celebration and Kathy Risley made laudatory comments about the Cathcarts on behalf of our society. The SBS had set up a continuously running projector show of pictures of Linda and Dennis over the years and on collecting trips. To the right are pictures of the duo from the October 2018 issue of the SBS newsletter.



Source: Sarasota BS October 2018 Newsletter

Karen Mills' Paint Job

Speaking of the FBG, our Membership Service Award plaque in the bromeliad area at the gardens had faded over the years and some of the names were illegible. To fix this, Karen Mills took her paints to the gardens and repainted all the lettering on the plaque. The results of her handiwork can be seen in the picture on the right. It looks better than it did when the parts were new.



Tillandsia 'Majestic'

The Tillandsia Gary Lund had at the Show and Tell last month that was labeled *Til. chiapensis x concolor* (picture on right) has the registered name of *Tillandsia 'Majestic'*, a cross of seed parent *chiapensis* and pollen parent *concolor* "Red spike form".



Tillandsia 'Majestic'

Blast from the Past

Below is a picture from about 2002 that Kathy Risley sent in that shows a group of our then-members at the Florida Botanical Gardens (FBG) where we were working on the bromeliad garden we had sponsored and installed a few years earlier. At that time, it was located just outside the southern entrance to the gardens and included a bench dedicated to Fay O'Rourke (a former FWC president, now deceased) and a large boulder that holds our Membership Service Award plaque. Current members pictured are Judy and Gary Lund, Helga and Tom Tarver, Kathy Risley, Chip Hill, Bob Albanese, and Linda Sheetz (me). Former members pictured are Jean and Roland Schnabel, Joe O'Rourke, Bob Dalzell, Carol Schultz, Jim Boynton, and Anne Kavanaugh and her two sons Jerry and Michael. I apologize to those whom I was not able to identify. Perhaps some of our members can fill in the blanks.



Some years ago the FBG moved our original bromeliad garden, along with the bench and rock, to a small cramped area inside the gardens, near the pavilion. Over the years since then, we have tried to coordinate with FBG personnel to better organize the garden and provide labels for the plants but have not received permission to do this so far.

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2018

November 12, Sarasota Bromeliad Society Bromeliad Fall Auction

Selby Gardens Great Room by the Bay, 811 So. Palm Avenue, Sarasota, Florida, 7:00 pm
(Marian Kennell at mmkennell@verizon.net; 941-544-1412)

December 1-2, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Sale

Araba Shrine Temple, 2010 Hanson Street, Fort Myers (bprevattppcc@aol.com)

2018 FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dick Dailey, richard@daileyadv.com
Vice President	Brian Corey, bcorey2@tampabay.rr.com
Secretary	Nancy Dailey, nancygoat2@msn.com
Treasurer	Gary Lund, garybrom@yahoo.com
Immediate-Past President	Ashley Graham, adglaw@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor	Linda Sheetz, lsheetz@tampabay.rr.com
Trustees (3)	Karen Mills (2018), karen4photo@aol.com Judy Lund (2017-2019), glund@tampabay.rr.com Joe Ventimiglia (2018-2020), ventimij@gmail.com

Website: FWCBS.org

Webmaster: Richard Poole, rapoole4469@yahoo.com