

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2014

Celebrating 60 Years of Bromeliads

floridabromeliads.org



December 2014 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING — 60TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY— DIAMOND JUBILEE

Date & Time:

Tuesday, December 2

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

Location:

Good Samaritan Church

6085 Park Boulevard

Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

Special 60th Anniversary/Holiday Party DIAMOND JUBILEE

The next meeting will be dedicated entirely to our *Special 60th Anniversary/Holiday Party*, with plant giveaways for every member present (be sure to wear your member name tag) and a lot of good food. There will also be a Plant Swap for both members and guests alike. If you want to participate in the Plant Swap, bring a bromeliad (or clump) to exchange for one someone else has brought. Please have plants labeled. Needless to say, there will be no plant sales for this evening.

Party Refreshments

Bring your favorite dish(es) to share to complete the evening's delights. We have discovered that many of our members are great and creative cooks.

Member Service Recognition Award

During the meeting/party, the FWCBS Board of Directors will announce the name of a member, past or present, to be honored for their service in advancing the aims of the Society. The names of members so honored are added to a plaque that is on a boulder next to the FWCBS bench at the Florida Botanical Gardens.

NOVEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Program

Dave Johnston's clever *Bromeliad Jeopardy!* presentation was a test of our knowledge of bromeliads in a format similar to the television show of the same name. He presented statements ('answers' on the TV show) about five subjects or categories – such as history, horticulture, and identification – with answers worth 10 to 50 points. Dave worked it on the honor system, with the audience keeping track of their own scores. He awarded plant prizes to people with the highest score in each of three different groups based on their number of years in the Society. The three years and under group winner was Dick Dailey, the three to seven years group winner was Ashley Graham, and the seven years and over winner was Gary Lund. The maximum score possible for all correct answers was 750 points and Gary's score of 660 was the highest overall. Impressive.

I will not go into details about or repeat the bromeliad facts Dave covered, because he is taking his presentation around the state to other bromeliad societies. He plans to award a prize to the person among all the societies who has the highest score. We do not want to give anything away; it is best to keep the game level and the surprise fresh.

Election of 2015 Officers and Trustees

Members elected the following individuals to next year's Board of Directors:

President	Ashley Graham
Vice President	Larry Sousa
Secretary	Sal Vactor
Treasurer	Gary Lund
Trustee	Barbra Stayer (three-year term, 2015 through 2017)

Remaining positions on the nine-member Board are Susan Sousa as Immediate Past President, Judy Lund and Carol Schultz as trustees who have one and two years, respectively, left on their three-year Trustee term, and Linda Sheetz as Newsletter Editor.

Show and Tell

Reported by Helga Tarver

John Edwards	<i>Billbergia</i> 'Pearl Fantasia' (picture below); Przetock hybrid
Gary Lund	<i>Tillandsia xerographica</i> (picture below)
Franne Matwijczyk	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Treasure Chest' x <i>Orthophytum navioides</i> <i>Billbergia</i> Beadle # 1546 (picture below) <i>Billbergia</i> Beadle # 1512 <i>Vriesea</i> 'Astrid' (picture below) <i>Nidularium</i> ; species unknown
Alvaro Maranhao	<i>Aechmea chlorophylla</i> (picture below)
Linda Sheetz	<i>Neoregelia</i> 'Brown Recluse', Skotak hybrid
Jan Stoffels	<i>Pitcairnia smithiorum</i> (picture below)

Show and Tell plants



Billbergia 'Pearl Fantasia'



Tillandsia xerographica



Billbergia Beadle # 1546



Vriesea 'Astrid'



Aechmea chlorophylla



Pitcairnia smithiorum

THIS AND THAT

New Member

Please welcome our newest member Monika Hale Davis who joined our society last month.

Genus *Canistropsis*

by Herb Plever, *BROMELIANA*, newsletter for the New York Bromeliad Society, March, 2014,

CANISTROPSIS has a confused history in taxonomy. It has been a subgenus of *Nidularium*, then transferred to *Neoregelia*, then transferred back as a subgenus of *Nidularium*. In 1997, Elton C. Leme, in his study of the Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest and his book, "CANISTROPSIS", classified *Canistropsis* as an independent genus. *Canistropsis* means "resembling a *Canistrum*". Its pups propagate on long stolons. It is native only in moist areas of Brazil, mostly on the southeast coast and a few in wet, montane forests. Its species grow both epiphytically and saxicolous on rocks (usually near waterfalls).

Canistropsis is included in Leme's *Nidularium* Complex. Its species vary in size (small to medium), leaves, and inflorescence. For instance, 7 of its species: *C. marceloi*, *C. burchellii* (picture below), *C. simulans*, *C. albiflora*, *C. correia-araujo* (picture below), *C. microps* (three varieties), and *C. pulcherrima* have inflorescences down in the cup which do not exceed the tops of the leaves. The blooms of 5 species -- *C.*

seidelii, *C. billbergioides* (2 varieties), *C. elata*, *C. exigua* and *C. selloana* rise on mostly subfoliaceous scapes much above the leaves.



Canistropsis burchellii



Canistropsis correia-araujoii (FCBS)

The primary bracts of the inflorescence are mostly red, but *C. seidelii* has both bright yellow and red bracts. The holotype of *C. billbergioides* has bright yellow bracts, but the species can be found with bracts that are very varied in colors ranging from shades of yellow, orange, red, and bicolored.

The flower petals are mostly white, but *C. correia-araujoii*'s petals are mauve and the petals of *C. billbergioides* var. *azurea* are blue. Given its variability and its affinity to *Neoregelia*, *Nidularium* and *Canistrum*, we may see further changes in the classification of its species when new DNA data becomes available.

The Bromeliad Cultivar Register of the BSI lists 11 cultivars of *C. billbergioides*, based on their diverse bract or leaf colors. These are described by Derek Butcher as follows:

- APRICOT - Primary bract deep yellow orange. Leaf green;
- BLOOD ORANGE – Primary bract reddish orange. Leaf green;
- CITRON (was citrinum) Primary bracts yellow. Leaf green;
- GUAVA-- Primary bracts rose. Leaf green;
- LEMON -- Primary bracts light yellow. Leaf green;
- MANDARIN – Primary bracts Mandarin Red. Leaf maroon;
- MULBERRY -- Primary bracts dark orange/mulberry. Leaf reddish both sides;
- PERSIMMON - Primary bracts orange. Leaf green;
- PLUM -- Primary bracts apricot. Leaf maroon both sides; *Canistropsis burchellii*, *Canistropsis correia-araujoii* (pictures above)
- TAMARILLO --- Primary bracts orange flushed mulberry. Leaf rusty both sides;
- TUTTI FRUTTI – Primary bracts orange flushed mulberry.



Canistropsis billbergioides- Pink form, photo by Dorothy Berg (fcbs.org) Like *C.* 'Guava'



Canistropsis billbergioides, Yellow bracted form in habitat; photo by Elton Leme

Having seen only a few of these cultivars, I hesitate to pass judgment just from the photos on how distinctly they differ from the species and from each other. But problem is moot because none of them seem to be available in the U.S. Michael's Bromeliads has many species of *Canistropsis* available; for *C. billbergioides* his list has yellow, orange and pink bracted forms, a rubra-leaved form and *var. azurea*.

C. burchellii is a small plant, *C. seidelii* (picture on right) of medium size and the rest are medium-small, so they are rewarding and easy plants for us to grow.



Canistropsis seidelii, Photo by Dorothy Berg (fcbs.org)

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2014-2015

2014

December 6-7, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Show

Terry Park, 3451 Marion Street, Fort Myers (bprevattpcc@aol.com)

2015

March 27-29, Tropiflora Spring Festival

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

March 28-29, GreenFest Plant Sale

University of Tampa, Tampa, FL (friendsofplantpark.com/greenfest)

April 11-12, USF Botanical Gardens Spring Plant Sale

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

April 25-26, 2015, Green Thumb Festival

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

September 26, Bromeliad Extravaganza, Bromeliads in the Magic City

Hosted by the Bromeliad Society of South Florida.

2014 FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Susan Sousa, susansousa1@yahoo.com
Vice President	Franne Matwiczzyk, franne@fbgbamboo.com
Secretary	John Edwards, JOHNRN56@aol.com
Treasurer	Gary Lund, garybrom@yahoo.com
Immediate-Past President	Kathy Risley, linocut1@tampabay.rr.com
Newsletter Editor	Linda Sheetz, lsheetz@tampabay.rr.com
Trustees (3)	Barret Bassick (2012-2014), barretb@myway.com Judy Lund (2014-2015), glund@tampabay.rr.com Carol Schultz (2014-2016), carolcurrieschultz@gmail.com

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