

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2017

Celebrating over 63 Years in Bromeliads

fwcbs.org



November 2017 Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

Date & Time: Tuesday, December 5, 2017; 7:30 pm
Location: Good Samaritan Church
6085 Park Boulevard
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

PROGRAM

Holiday Party

The regularly scheduled December meeting night will be dedicated entirely to our annual Holiday Party. There will be no business meeting, no speaker, no general raffle table, no friendship plant table, and no plant sales. But there will be bromeliads! Every member present will receive a bromeliad pup and will also be eligible for a drawing for one of the several dozen Prize Plants. Be sure to wear your nametag to be eligible for these. In addition, for both members and guests there will be a Bromeliad Plant Swap and a Special Raffle. To participate in the Gift Swap, bring a clean, labeled, disease-free plant to swap for a plant someone else has brought to exchange.

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, and they never disappoint with the food they provide.

Member Service Recognition Award

During the meeting/party, the FWCBS Board of Directors will announce the name of an FWC member who will be honored for their service in advancing the aims of the Society. 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.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

LAST PROGRAM

Dennis Cathcart's presentation *New Explorations and Discoveries in Brazil--Parts II and III* completed the story of the 2014 two-week trip he and his wife Linda took to four of Brazil's 26 states to find Dyckias and other bromeliads in their native habitats. His previous talk covered their visit to two of the four states, and in his November talk he took us through the remaining two states.

Rio Grande do Sul - This state is located at the southernmost end of Brazil along the northern border of Uruguay and is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean. This area is a temperate zone, and habitats there can be very much like those in southern Africa and parts of Australia. Very few bromeliads grow in this zone, there is not a large variety of them, and those that do grow there are very hardy. Many of the bromeliads in Sul are rare and grow mostly on cliffs. Dyckias spotted there preferred to grow on rocks and in areas where water is readily available. Some of the bromeliad species Dennis found in Sul include the following:

Vriesea gigantea, *V. friburgensis*, *V. platynema*, *V. reitzii*
Dyckia hebdingii, *D. remotiflora*, *D. chlorostaminea*, *D. jonesiana*, *D. irmgardiae*
Bromelia antiacantha
Tillandsia stricta, *T. tenuifolia*
Aechmea recurvata, *A. caudata*, *A. nudicaulis*
Billbergia nutans

Santa Catarina - This state is located along the northern border of Rio Grande do Sul and is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean. It is more tropical in climate and has more species of bromeliads than Sul. The southern end of the great Atlantic Forest that grows along the eastern shore of Brazil is found in Santa Catarina. Some of the bromeliad species they spotted in this state included the following:

Vriesea phillipo-cobergii, *V. rodigasiana*, *V. altodaserrae*, *V. vagans*, *V. guttata*
Neoregelia laevis (the southernmost-growing *Neoregelia*)
Edmundoa lindenbergii var. *rosea*
Billbergia porteana
Dyckia species nova Subida, *D. brevifolia*, *D. encholirioides*, *D. riosulensis* (proposed name; grows on cliffs)
Aechmea ornata, *A. nudicaulis*

To further promote the idea that Dyckias can endure wet feet, they spotted a colony of *Dyckia brevifolia* growing – and thriving! – on rocks in the middle of the Itajai River in Santa Catarina that were occasionally flooded by high river water.

2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the November meeting members elected the following offices and trustees to the 2018 Board of Directors:

President	Dick Dailey
Vice President	Brian Corey
Secretary	Nancy Dailey
Treasurer	Gary Lund
Trustee (three-year term)	Joe Ventimiglia (3-year term, 2018 through 2020)
Trustee	Karen Mills (one-year term to replace Sal Vactor's vacated last year of her three-year term)

MEMBERS WANT TO KNOW ...

This section presents questions regarding bromeliad cultivation that members submitted in writing to the Program Chairman to be read at the meeting. The questions are followed by answers or comments from the group at the meeting.

Question: The mystery of hybrid pups confounds and the pups from many *Neoregelia* 'Johannis DeRolf' turn out completely plain green rather than colorful and variegated like the parent. Is there a chance the 3rd generation from the plain Jane hybrid will again return to the original beautiful plant colors?

Answer: Less than 50 percent of the offshoots can be expected to re-variegate. And the parent plant is probably not truly non-variegated and has some minor striping or other variegation on it.

SHOW AND TELL

Franne Matwijczyk

Billbergia, Don Beadle hybrid (photo below)

Tillandsia leiboldiana 'Mara'; when in bloom, has a unique red-purple inflorescence (photo below)

Quesnelia quesnelia, displaying its climbing habit (photo below)

Kathy Risley

Neoregelia ampullacea variegated

Neoregelia 'Blueberry Tart'

Neoregelia 'Toy Tiger'

Linda Sheetz

Acanthostachys strobilacea (photo below)

SHOW AND TELL PHOTOS



Billbergia; Don Beadle hybrid



Tillandsia leiboldiana 'Mara'



Quesnelia quesnelia



Acanthostachys strobilacea



THIS AND THAT

FWCBS Plant Sale

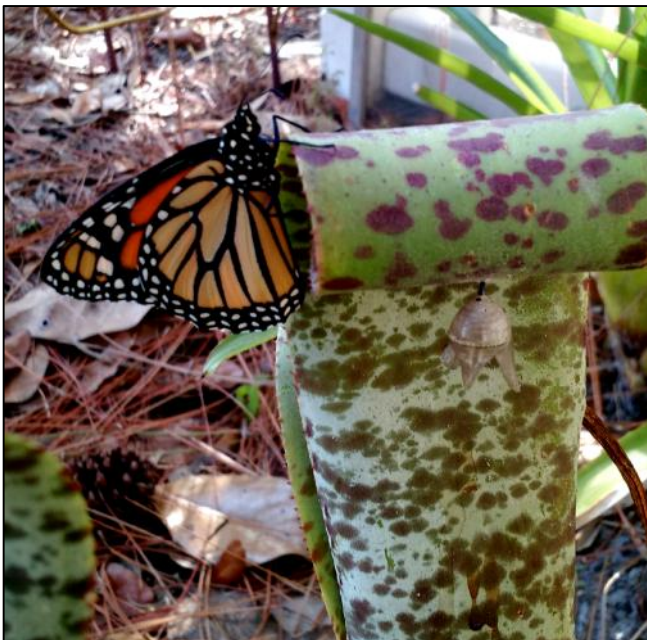
The plant sale our Society held on Saturday, November 1, was a success. Sellers included Eva Collins, Ashley Graham, Karen Mills, Alton Lee helped by his sister Sandy, Alvaro Maranhao, Franne and Nicole Matwijczyk, Bill and Marianne Schumacher, Larry and Susan Sousa, and Sal Vactor. The weather was lovely and there was a nice turnout for the event. In addition to bromeliads, vendors were selling other tropical plants. Thanks to Susan for putting the sale together and the sellers who participated. One of the vendors, Karen Mills, submitted photos she took of the event, some of which are shown below.





A Little Help for a Friend; a Follow-up

In last month's newsletter, we showed a picture of Barb Gardner's *Quesnelia* 'Tim Plowman' that had a monarch butterfly chrysalis on one of the leaves. Barb reported that the butterfly later emerged from the chrysalis and she sent in the photos below to show the event. In the photo on the left you can see the ruptured chrysalis on the Tim Plowman leaf.



Ques. 'Tim Plowman' with a monarch butterfly newly emerged from its chrysalis attached to the plant.

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2017

December 2-3, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Sale
 Araba Shrine Temple, 2010 Hanson Street, Fort Myers (bprevattppcc@aol.com)

December 8-9, Tropiflora Nursery Winter Sale
 Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota (tropiflora.com/events.cfm)

2017 FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Dick Dailey, richard@daileyadv.com
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