

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org

May, 2015

BGTB

Annual Picnic and Plant Auction

Monday, May 18, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha Center, Room 201-202

Come on out for an evening of fun and acquiring new bromeliads at the auction! The club will furnish the meat, drinks, condiments, cups, plates and eating utensils. Just bring your favorite vegetable, casserole, salad, or dessert and please bring the proper serving utensils.

After our "picnic" we will auction off some beautiful bromeliads. Please donate at least one plant and come prepared to bid on your favorite selections. This is a wonderful opportunity to add to your bromeliad collection and it is one of the club's main fundraising events.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE MAY 2015



A big THANK YOU to Robert & Eileen Hart for opening their home for a new members workshop. There were about twelve members in attendance and a good time was had by all. A special thanks to Robert Nelson for assisting with the workshop.

Also, Eileen did a great job with her program on general culture at last month's BGTB meeting. She pointed out the pros and cons of several of the more commonly grown genera. She presented some very good basic information.

This month we will have our traditional picnic and plant auction. Please bring a covered dish, casserole, salad, or desert and a very plant or plants to be auctioned. This is one of our semi-annual fund raisers so please be generous in giving and bidding.

I have appointed Pam Slagg as a director on our Board of Directors. Thanks to Pam for being willing to serve.

Our spring sale at USF was a big success raising a whopping \$1,151.75 for the club. There were many who donated plants and their time to help with the sale including Steve and Marilyn Byram, Paula Benway, Bill Carr, Eileen Hart, Ray Hernandez, Dave Johnston, Julie Lessard, David Mracek, Robert Nelson, Maria Warner, Douglass Wells, and Tom Wolfe. This was truly a team effort and it paid off in support to the club. Thanks to everyone who helped and donated bromeliads.

Tom Wolfe
President

Dues are Due!

It's time to renew your BGTB membership. Your membership expires at the end of next month. Please fill out the application/renewal form in this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting or mail it to our Membership Chair, **Julie Lessard, 807 Knight Street, Seffner, FL 33584.**



**THIS MONTH
MAY 18, 2015
PICNIC - BRING FOOD
AUCTION - BRING PLANTS**

Time of meeting this month is 6:30 p.m. and we will eat at 7:00 p.m. Please bring a covered dish, casserole, salad, or dessert. Meat and drinks will be provided by the Club. Those who signed up to help decorate, please arrive by 6:00 p.m.

Also, please bring a nice plant or plants for the auction and be generous with your bigging. If you have any questions, call Eileen Hart, Event Chair. This is one of our semi-annual fund raisers to support the club.

Thanks for your help.

Tom Wolfe

Minutes, April 20, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Tom Wolfe

Visitors: Dr. Ann Comstock, Jean Prossen

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter made by Eileen Hart; seconded by Robert Nelson

Workshop: presented on Aechmeas, Gamosepalas and Aechmea Cylindrata by Tom Wolfe

New Business: Bromeliad Extravaganza - September 2015. South Florida Chapter has asked us to advertise in the Bulletin for \$50.00. Motion made by Ray Hernandez, seconded by Steve Byram

Field trip to Rob Branch's Sarasota Garden - perhaps in May.

Door Prize Plant won by Dottie Kellogg

Birthday Plant won by Anna Hartman

Refreshments and Raffle

Program was presented by Eileen Hart on Bromeliad General Culture

Respectfully submitted by Ray Hernandez, Secretary



Meeting Snapshots - April 20, 2015



Workshop at the Home of Eileen Hart - April 19, 2015



Introducing new member, Russ Powell

Russ got his start with bromeliads by rescuing a bunch of unwanted, half-dead dried up plants from a neighbor's discard pile and throwing them in a shallow shaded trench (grave), never actually expecting them to survive. When these forgotten plants began replicating themselves and producing the most beautiful brilliant red blossoms he had ever seen, Russ simply had to learn more. A retired University of Kentucky faculty member, in a prior life, Russ directed the administration of the Engineering Research Library for most of his professional career. Russ lives in Northwest Tampa where he plans to continue planting more of these wonderful specimens as he transforms his former citrus grove into a yard that will probably never actually be a garden, but rather a random mix of grapes, live oaks and a growing collection of various types of bromeliads that have such elusive names that he is still trying to identify,





Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Julie Lessard of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have. Call 813-662-7972 or email at taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com



May Birthdays: Rusty Beazley, Shari Elfont, Robert Hart, Doug McDowell, Judy Pope-Champagne, Lisa Robinette, Randy Wojahn

We will have a drawing at the meeting for one of the lucky birthday people to take home a nice bromeliad as a Birthday gift from the club.

Club members celebrating their birthdays also provide the refreshments at our meeting each month. This way everyone helps once during the year. If you have a May or December birthday, please bring refreshments the following month, since we have the picnic and Christmas parties those months. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.



Officers for 2014-2015

President: Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 BromeliadSociety@juno.com

Vice President: Eileen Hart 813-920-2987 eplants@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 paulabenway@aol.com

Secretary: Ray Hernandez 813-832-3561 subtropicofcancer@hotmail.com

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Committee Chairs:

Publicity: Bill Carr 813-752-8485 wcarr1@tampabay.rr.com

Sunshine/Membership: Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com

Telephone: Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 btsgarden@msn.com

Raffle: Shirley Perez 813-920-5595 shirleyp2@yahoo.com

Program: Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 BromeliadSociety@juno.com



Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay - www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/562988247096958/>

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

Bromeliads Online - <http://www.bromeliads.co.nz/index.html>

Any Changes?

If your mailing address, email address, or phone number changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com





BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY

Membership Application/Renewal

Please Print

Name _____ Birth Month _____

Second Name _____ Birth Month _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date of Application _____

Please check one:

_____ \$25.00 Single Membership

_____ \$30.00 Family Membership

**Make checks payable to BGTB
Submit with application to:**

**Julie Lessard
807 Knight St.
Seffner, FL 33584**

How did you hear about BGTB?

___ Friend ___ Newspaper ___ Facebook ___ BGTB Website ___ Plant Festival or Show

___ Other (Please specify) _____

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc.

Established 1963

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.

Plant sales at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha Center, Rooms 201-202

821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa

Informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments

BGTB is affiliated with Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., National Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.



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Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
BROMELIAD GUILD
OF TAMPA BAY, INC.
21535 Northwood Dr.
Lutz, Florida 33549**