

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



October, 2012

President's Message



Hi, all,

We would like to have everyone's thoughts about our future programs. Please be thinking about what you would like to see or hear about at our meetings beginning in January. We will be passing around a paper at the next meeting for your suggestions and ideas. You don't have to sign your name.

As you have probably heard, we will be meeting at a new location. Look for the map in this newsletter. Everyone who comes to our next meeting at the new location will receive a free plant to add to your collection!

Eileen

October 15, 2012, Meeting

OUR NEW MONTHLY MEETING LOCATION:

**Christ the King Catholic Church
821 South Dale Mabry Highway
Tampa, Florida 33609**

Speaker: Charlie Birdsong from Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Program: The Other Neoregelia: Subgenus Hylaeaicum



Our speaker will be Charlie Birdsong from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Programs are open to the public and visitors are always welcome to our meetings. The doors will open at 7:00 PM and the meeting will start at 7:30 PM.

Charlie developed his interest in Bromeliads from his parents while living in New Orleans in the late 1960's. He moved to Baton Rouge in 1963 to attend LSU and has lived there ever since. After college Charlie began his bromeliad collection with Mulford Foster plants from his parents and more from Erik Knoblock. Back then, his collection was small enough to move in and out when the cold weather came.

In 1975, Charlie helped to start up the Bromeliad Society of Baton Rouge. As a charter member, he has served in every office over the years and still serves the Society today. He's the Southwest Guild representative from Baton Rouge. Charlie joined the BSI in 1975, has attended many World Conferences and chaired the auction at two Conferences. He co-chaired this year's Southwest Guild and Cryptanthus show auctions in Baton Rouge. He also served the BSI as the Affiliate Shows Chairman in 2010.

He attended judging school in Houston and is now a Master Judge. He's judged 56 Shows since accreditation in 1996. He serves the BSI on the Judges Handbook revision committee through the Judges Certification Committee from our District.

Charlie has presented many bromeliad programs at local Garden Societies and other plant groups as well as Bromeliad Societies throughout Louisiana, Texas and Florida. He's also had articles in the BSI Journal and Local Society Plant bulletins and contributed a number of short articles for the Greater New Orleans Bromeliad Society bulletin, Potpourri.

He grows many different genera and although Billbergias are his favorites, most of his collection of over five thousand plants is Neoregelias. Everyone attending this month's meeting will receive a free distribution plant!

As Charlie is fortunate to have daughters living in Florida, he's been able to make many trips here to see shows and visit vendors every year under the excuse of Grandpa. Come hear his program and learn more about bromeliads.

Tom Wolfe
Program Chairman



**FREE PLANT
FIRST MONTH AT NEW MEETING
LOCATION**

**Everyone attending this month's meeting
will receive a free distribution plant!**

COME TO THE MEETING AND INVITE A FRIEND TO COME WITH YOU TO MEET IN OUR SPACIOUS, CENTRALLY LOCATED NEW FACILITY.

LET'S SHOW OUR APPRECIATION TO THE CHURCH BY MAKING SURE YOUR POTS ARE VERY CLEAN – JUST LIKE YOU WERE BRINGING THEM INTO YOUR OWN HOUSE. HAVE THEM VERY CLEAN SO WE MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON OUR NEW LANDLORD.

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO CHRIST THE KING FOR ALLOWING US TO HAVE OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AT THEIR FACILITY WHEN WE HAD ONLY THREE WEEKS TO FIND A PLACE TO MEET. LET'S SHOW OUR APPRECIATION TO THEM FOR THEIR HELP.

Possible Tour Opportunity

Steve Wagner, one of the BSI members whose garden was on the home tour at the recent World Conference, has extended an invitation to our club to come for a visit to see his garden. We might be able to visit one or two more homes on the trip as well. If you are interested in going, we will discuss dates and transportation at our next meeting or you can email Tom Wolfe at BromeliadSociety@juno.com.

Upcoming Events

October 13-14: Fall Plant Festival. USF Botanical Gardens. 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Sat., 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Sun. Admission \$5.00.

October 27: Munn Park Garden Extravaganza. Downtown Lakeland. Plants, garden art, exhibits, soil testing, demonstrations, Standard Flower Show. 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Free.



Directions to New Meeting Location

**Christ the King Catholic Church
821 South Dale Mabry Highway
Tampa, Florida**

The church parking lot entrance is approximately .6 of a mile south of Kennedy Blvd., and 1.2 miles south of Interstate 275.

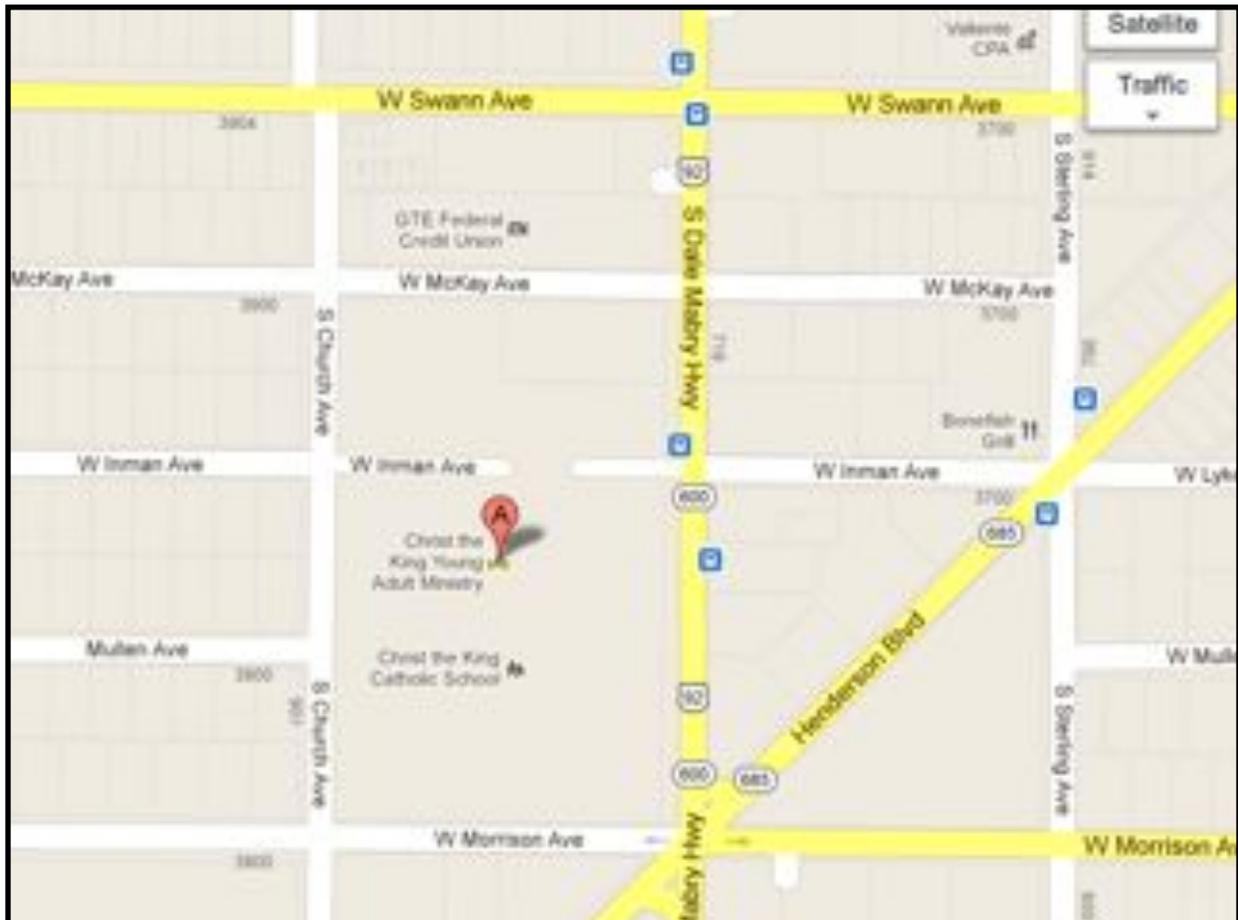
The entrance is directly across the street from the I Hop restaurant.

As you turn into the church property, look for 2 tall flag poles. Park near the flag poles. Walk down the concrete walkway near them.

You will see a sign "Parish Hall Office".

Follow it to Room C.

Someone will be in the parking lot to guide you.



Minutes, September 10, 2012

The meeting was called to order by former president, Beverly Sisco.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter was made by H.T. Sisco and seconded by Robert Nelson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: August Report: Total Balance was \$8768.44.

September Report: Total Balance was \$8580.41

Program "Why Isn't My Plant on the Head Table?" was presented by Jay Thurrott.

Announcements: The Board of Directors met and decided to sell our library books. Our librarian, Harriet Gord, stated that the books are worth about \$3,000.00. We will sell a few at a time in raffle baskets, etc. What doesn't sell here can be sold at conferences in the future.

Old Business: It was announced at the August meeting that the rent at the Garden Club has been raised from \$175.00 to \$250.00 per month. We were also requested to change our meeting dates to the 2nd Monday of the month, which was inconvenient for some of our members. Therefore, several members searched for a new meeting location. There was a discussion regarding re-locating to Christ the King Catholic Church. Nine of our members went to look at the facilities on Friday, September 7. The room that was available to us is large, tables would be set up for us, there is a kitchen with an ice machine, we would be allowed to bring plants in. The rent is \$50.00 per month. We would be required to have liability insurance at a cost of \$173.00 per year for \$1,000,000 per incident or \$2,000,000 per year. We would have use of the facility from 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. The church is not far from our present meeting location. No storage space is available, so we would have to either take our supplies with us or rent storage space nearby.

After discussion, a motion was made by Eileen Kahl to move our meetings to Christ the King Catholic Church, rent a storage facility for a couple months, and get liability insurance. Motion was seconded by Carol Wolfe. Motion carried.

Beverly Sisco thanked Dottie Kellogg for finding the new meeting place for us.

Next meeting will be October 15 at Christ the King Catholic Church.

Verna Dickey volunteered to get our kitchen supplies from our present location and bring them to the next meeting. H.T. and Beverly Sisco will help her.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Shirley Perez, and seconded by Barbara Easton.

Meeting adjourned.

Refreshments

Raffle

Respectfully submitted by Marilyn Byram, acting secretary



Bromeliad FAQ

How do I get my bromeliad to bloom?

Your plant may not be large/mature enough to be ready to bloom yet. To encourage your plant to grow quicker, you can make sure it is well fertilized and watered and is receiving the proper amount of light and warmth. A small addition of Epsom Salts (Magnesium sulfate) may help promote growth and initiate blooming. Magnesium is critical for the production of chlorophyll and flowers. It helps strengthen cell walls and improves plants' uptake of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sulfur.

If the plant is mature enough and just doesn't seem to want to bloom, blooming can usually be triggered by exposing the plant to ethylene gas. The simplest method for doing this is to enclose the plant in a plastic bag with a ripe apple. Keep it out of the direct sun for a week. The ripe apple will release ethylene which triggers a chemical reaction in the plant telling it to stop producing leaves and start producing a flower spike.

From http://www.bsi.org/brom_info/FAQ.html



Every month, club members celebrating their birthdays provide the refreshments at our meeting. 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. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, devilled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

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

October Birthdays: Barret Bassick, Bob Benway, Lois Conner, Ted Ledbetter, Lois Duffey, Mike Sweet



Officers for 2012-2013

President: Eileen Hart 813-920-2987

Vice President: Dave Mracek 813-968-3666 VENFLDJM@hotmail.com

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

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

Committee Chairs:

Parliamentarian: Mike Sweet

Librarian: Harriet Gord

Show: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey

Membership: Eileen Kahl and Harriet Henry

Publicity: Rhoda Smith

Programs: Tom Wolfe



Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Rhoda Smith of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have.

Call 813-839-8344 or email at habitat@tampabay.rr.com.



Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org

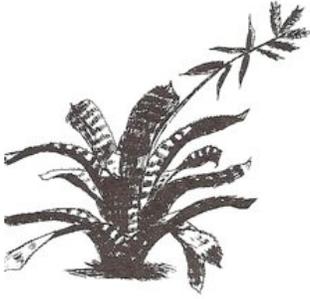
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

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





The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. was organized in 1963. BGTB is affiliated with the following: 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.

When: Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.
Plant sale at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Christ the King Catholic Church, 821 South Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa

Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales,
door prizes, raffle & refreshments
Visitors welcome!

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