



# Orlandiana

Newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Volume No. 30

Issue No. 11

November 2004

**Next Meeting: Monday, November 22, 2004**

**6:30 pm Refreshments**

**Where: Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Ave. Orlando**

**7:00 Meeting Starts**

**No Member Market this Month**

**This month's Program: the History of the Central Florida Bromeliad Society**

**Speaker: Grant Groves**

**Grant will be selling plants at the meeting**

**Raffle Plants: All Members**

**Show & Tell: All Members**

**Refreshments: L - Z**

## **President's Message**

In spite of the 80° weather, winter and the holidays are almost upon us! It's not too soon to plan for the colder weather and, to that end; Betsy McCrory will be taking orders at this meeting for freeze cloth. Look for order information in this issue.

We also are planning a field trip for society members to Michael and Donna Kiehl's nursery at Don Beadle's former place in Venice. The date for that trip is Saturday, December 4, and it's a great opportunity for us to spend a day together in a great bromeliad nursery. Details are in this newsletter.

Remember that our Holiday Party is early this year – Tuesday, December 14. Carmen Morgan and Carmen Blanco are organizing this potluck dinner. Please be thinking of what dish you want to bring; there will be a sign up sheet at our meeting on Monday.

We have an important piece of business for this meeting and that is to elect officers for next year. The nominating committee has submitted the following slate: Karen Andreas, president; Bob Stevens, vice president; Betsy McCrory, treasurer; Quyles Force, secretary. Thanks again to the Nominating Committee for their work: Lee Missavage, Kathy Phinney and Sue Rhoads.

We're in for a treat this month as our fellow member Grant Groves gives a program on the history of our society. The founding members of our society played important roles in the bromeliad world during the last century; Grant will share pictures and some stories with us.

See you Monday night!

**Karen Andreas**

## Out & About With Pam Flesher

**HOLIDAY HOUSE AT THE GARDENS** Harry P. Leu Gardens and Saxon-Clark Furniture Design present Swing into the Holidays, December 1, 2004, through January 1, 2005, Daily 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. The designers of Saxon Clark will transform the Leu House Museum into a wonderful holiday showcase swing-era-style. It's a great time to visit the gardens, with over 1,000 camellias in full bloom during the month of December. For more information visit [www.leugardens.org](http://www.leugardens.org). Phone: 407-246-2620 Price: \$5.00 (adult), \$1.00 (students K-12)

**HOLIDAY CONCERT** at Harry P. Leu Gardens Sunday, December 5 at 6:00 p.m. Swing into the holidays with Terry Meyers' Big Band & the Swing Sisters. Bring your own dinner picnic basket and seating. The Leu House Museum will be opened during the event. Tickets go on sale for Leu Gardens' Members Friday, November 12, 2004 and Monday, November 15 for the public. Members may purchase up to 4 tickets at member prices per membership. \$13 plus tax Garden Member \$17 plus tax General Admission. Additional \$5 per ticket the night of the event, if available. Tickets are limited, nonrefundable and nontransferable to other garden activities. Tickets may be purchased at Leu Gardens Gift Shop or by phone 407-246-2620 with MC, VISA or AMEX.

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**LIGHTS IN BLOOM DECORATOR'S HOLIDAY MANSION AT MARIE SELBY GARDENS** December 10 - 26, 2004 Time: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm Come and visit the Mansion Museum which will be decorated in holiday finery by area interior designers. Gracing the front of the Mansion will be a 20 foot tall Christmas tree made entirely out of bromeliad plants. Admission: Members are admitted free, adults \$12.00, and children 6 through 11, \$6.00. Special rates for groups. Admission includes all outdoor gardens, Tropical Display House, Plant, Book and Gift Shops, and the Tree Lab. Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, 811 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236 Phone: 941-366-5731

email: [contactus@selby.org](mailto:contactus@selby.org) or [www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org)

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### **CHRISTMAS AT PINE WOOD, HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS at BOK SINGING TOWER, LAKE WALES, FLORIDA**

November 26, 2004 to January 9, 2005 (closed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day)

Experience a designer home tour with resplendent holiday decor throughout a 20-room Mediterranean mansion. The 10th annual Christmas at Pinewood home tour will showcase traditional 1930s decorations as well as international holiday customs celebrated by the estate global house guests. Step back in time at Pinewood Estate, the winter retreat of a wealthy industrialist from Pennsylvania, and see how the Bucks may have welcomed guests from around the world during the holidays in the 1930s. Today, the Mediterranean Revival mansion features antique furnishings, magnificent tiles, intricate woodwork and historic landscape gardens. Pinewood Estate is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Christmas at Pinewood Rates: (includes admission to Historic Bok Sanctuary) \$15 for adults; \$8 for children ages 5-12; free for children under 5; \$5 for members

#### **SINGING TOWER**

Housed in a majestic marble and coquina tower, the 60-bell Taylor carillon provides visitors with delightful music throughout the day. Through November 30, carillon recitals are at 4 pm daily. The recital time will return to 3 pm on December 2, 2004. Carillon clock music plays at 9 am, 10 am and every half-hour following.

**GENERAL INFORMATION** Historic Bok Sanctuary is open every day of the year from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. with last admission at 5 p.m. The Education and Visitor Center is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. General admission tickets are good for one day only and do not include specially ticketed events. Adults: \$8 Children 5-12: \$3 Under age 5: free Members: Free Historic Bok Sanctuary 1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales, FL 33853 Office: (863) 676-1408

Email: [info@boksanctuary.org](mailto:info@boksanctuary.org) or <http://www.boktower.org/whatsnew/special.html>

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### **NOVEMBER 20 & 21 2004 FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN RAMBLE & GARDEN FESTIVAL**

Visitors to Fairchild's annual Ramble celebrate outdoor living in South Florida! Now in its 64th year, this popular family festival dates back to 1941 when Nell Jennings, wife of Fairchild's founder Col. Robert H. Montgomery, organized the first fund-raising event to buy a truck for Fairchild. The unique ambiance of the Ramble is a blend of old traditions and new introductions offering residents and visitors a festival of thousands of plants for sale, garden accessories, exhibits, shopping, food, music and activities for children and adults alike. Visitors arrive early and spend the entire day, or two.

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden is located at 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Miami, Florida 33156 Phone 305/667-1651, [www.ftg.org](http://www.ftg.org) Fairchild is adjacent to Matheson Hammock Park, about 20 minutes by car from downtown Miami and Miami International Airport. Fairchild is open from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$9 Senior citizens 65 and older, \$5 for children 3 to 12, and free for Fairchild members and children under 3.

**DECEMBER 4, 2004 Field Trip to Michael's Bromeliads**, see page 3 for details.

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### **DECEMBER 14, 2004 BSCF HOLIDAY PARTY**

our annual holiday party. Mark your calendars. This is on a **TUESDAY** night at Leu Gardens

## **Dr. James Mahler**

BSCF member James Mahler died on Tuesday, November 9, after a battle with cancer. Jim, 45, was born in Oviedo and was a veterinarian, partner in the Pershing Oaks Animal Hospital in Orlando. He grew not only bromeliads but also orchids and roses and cultivated a butterfly garden in his back yard. He is survived by his wife Janice, son Ryan, daughters Nikki, Marissa and Jennifer. His mother, Dorothy Mahler, and his brother David are also members of BSCF.



Our deepest sympathies go out to the Mahler family.

## **2005 Membership**

It is that time to sign up for the New Year. Bob Stevens, our vice-president elect, has some great programs lined up for the new year plus we have the Leu Gardens Sale and our annual Mother's Day show & Sale this next year at the Fashion Square Mall on Hwy 50. Included in this newsletter is the 2005 Membership Form. Please fill it out and either bring it to the meeting or mail it to the Post Office box. Remember the first adult member is \$10 and each additional adult at the same address is \$2ea. School age children can be members of the society at no additional charge. If you did not receive the form with this newsletter than your membership has been paid for the New Year. Membership renewals are due by January 1. If you have any questions please see Betsy at the meeting or call her after 6pm.

## **2004 Frost Cloth Orders**

Betsy McCrory is now accepting orders for the frost cloth. It is in rolls of 300'x7-1/2'wide. This is the same material as last year 2.1 oz white but it is not as wide. Price will be .42 per foot. I will have the order forms at the meeting. You will need to decide how much you will need and I will try to have it ready for you by the Christmas Party. Last year I was unable to get any after December so you will need to get your order is as soon as possible. Remember that this material can be layered and each layer will add approximately 5-7 degrees per layer. If you have any questions before the meeting please call Betsy.

## **Field Trip to Michael's Bromeliads!**

Steven Wagner has made arrangements for Michael and Donna Kiehl to open their nursery for our society on Saturday, December 4. It's well worth the trip to Venice to see this extensive collection of bromeliads for sale. Bring your lunch – Donna and Michael will provide drinks.

Michael's Bromeliads is one of the few remaining mail order plant nurseries offering bromeliads only. The business began in 1989 and has since expanded to their five-acre property in Venice. They offer all types of Bromeliads with their specialty being *Neoregelias* and *Billbergias*; they have the entire *Billbergia* collection purchased from Don Beadle. This is a real opportunity to find some rare and unusual bromeliads.

We will need to know how many people are going, so be ready to tell us at the meeting or call (321-453-0366) or email me ([karen@fcbs.org](mailto:karen@fcbs.org)).

I hope you all will come for a day of fun and bromeliad fellowship!

**For directions to Michael' Bromeliads, please see page 7.**

# The Genus *Hohenbergia*

By Karen Andreas

The genus *Hohenbergia* was first described in 1830 and was named after the Prince of Wurttemberg, a patron of botanists who was known as Prince Hohenberg. There are 52 species in this genus, which is found in Brazil, Venezuela, the Lesser Antilles, Jamaica, Puerto Rico and Cuba. *Hohenbergias* have such a sturdy appearance that they add drama and interest to the landscape and in collections.



The largest number of *Hohenbergias* are found in Jamaica, with Brazil having the next largest number. *Hohenbergias* grow under diverse conditions, including as epiphytes on palms and trees, on sand dunes in coastal Brazil and on rocks. *Hohenbergias* can be grown like *Aechmeas*, for which they are often mistaken because of the similar appearance of their leaves, tall inflorescences, and upright, tank-type growth habit.

*Hohenbergias* like light shade to morning sun to maintain their color and the best form, although they do tolerate filtered afternoon light. Unlike many *Aechmeas*, however, they are sensitive to the cold and should be protected from frost. The inflorescence rises from the center of the bromeliad and, in some species, has long-lived color.



Here in Florida, you will often find *Hohenbergia setallata* in bromeliad gardens. This bromeliad is named “*stellata*” because of the star shaped floral bracts on its three-foot long inflorescence. Its “stars” turn a

### *Hohenbergia setallata* floral bract ↑

dramatic red when in bloom and stay in color for months, eventually fading to white. Purple flowers are especially dramatic against the red of the floral bracts. Its green leaves grow about three feet long when grown in good light, so give it plenty of room in the garden. Although native to the cloud and rain forests of eastern Brazil, Martinique, Trinidad and Venezuela, this *Hohenbergia* grows well in our landscape.



← *Hohenbergia rosea*

*Hohenbergia rosea* is another large member of this genus that grows in wide rosette form and needs room in the garden. Its inflorescence is similar in structure to that of the *stellata* but its “stars” are pink to rose in color. Its leaves also are a dark rose color. *Hohenbergia rosea* is best grown in light shade or morning light. It may take up to three years to reach blooming maturity.

*Hohenbergia correia-araujoi* was discovered in 1979; it’s another popularly grown member of this genus. Its leaves are copper color with silver bands and its growth habit is upright and narrow. It is not nearly as large as *stellata* and *rosea*. *Hohenbergia correia-araujoi* needs plenty of light in order for the leaves to maintain their upright stiffness. While the floral bracts are mostly white, they are striking against the dark rose pink color of the stalk of the inflorescence.



Rather than growing in large rosette form, some *Hohenbergias* have more of a vase shape. *Hohenbergia penna* is one such member of this genus. The leaves

of this Brazilian bromeliad *Hohenbergia correia-araujoi* † are wavy on the edges, giving it a most interesting look. *Hohenbergia leopoldo-horstii* is another example of a compact, vase shape.

Whether planted in the garden or in a pot in a collection, *Hohenbergias* always offer a dramatic and stately look.



All Photos Courtesy of The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

† *Hohenbergia penna*

*Hohenbergia leopoldo-horstii* †

Sources:

Baensch, Ulrich and Ursula Baensch. Blooming Bromeliads. 1994.

Padilla, Victoria. Bromeliads. 1973.

Pleper, Herb and Joyce Brehm, editor. Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual. Bromeliad Society International. 2003.

Smith, Lyman B and Robert Jack Downs. Flora Neotropica Monograph No. 14, Part 3, Bromelioideae. 1979.

Steens, Andrew. Bromeliads for the contemporary Garden. 2003

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA**  
**October 25, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by President Karen Andreas at 7:00 p.m. Karen reminded everyone to sign in, pay any outstanding dues, visit the members' sales table, buy raffle tickets, bid on silent auction plants, check out the supply store and help themselves at the food table. She thanked the officers who furnished the food for this anniversary meeting.

New member Bob Johnson was introduced and welcomed.

Bob Stevens led the Show and Tell segment.

Karen Andreas presented the evening's program, which was a beautiful slide show of the World Conference in Chicago. Everyone enjoyed seeing the beautiful plants entered in the competition, and congratulated BSCF members who won prizes.

At 8:20 Karen Andreas announced the break, during which the anniversary cake was cut.

Minutes - Helen Kwiat moved to approve the August minutes; Ed Hall seconded; and the minutes of the August meeting were unanimously approved.

Although no meeting was expected in September due to the storms, twenty-five members showed up. Sue Rhoads moved to approve the September minutes; Phyllis Baumer seconded; and the minutes of the September meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report - The Treasurer's Report for September reflects a balance of \$618.46 in checking, \$12,471.54 in the Money Market account, and \$35 cash on hand, for a total of \$13,125.00

Bylaws Committee - The Committee met last week. The proposed final Amended Bylaws will be in the December newsletter.

Slate of Officers 2005 - The Nominating Committee was appointed at the September meeting. The proposed slate of officers are: Karen Andreas for President, Bob Stevens for Vice President, Betsy McCrory for Treasurer, and Quyles Force for Secretary. Final elections will be during the November meeting.

Extravaganza - Karen Andreas reported that the 2004 Extravaganza in Largo, FL on October 23 was very successful. Several BSCF members attended. The members thanked Grant Groves, Buddy McCrory, Betsy McCrory and Karen and Michael Andreas for donating plants for the Extravaganza fundraisers.

Holiday Party Committee - The Holiday party will be on December 14 at Leu Gardens. Carmen Blanco and Carmen Morgan volunteered to coordinate the party.

Leu Gardens Sale Committee - The sale will be on March 5 & 6, 2005. The contract has been signed. Bob Stevens and Butch Force will co-chair the sale committee. Other members on the planning committee are Betsy McCrory and Karen Andreas. The committee has requested the same sales area as the Society had last year.

Field Trip - Michael Kiehl of Michael's Bromeliads bought Don Beadle's nursery in Venice.

He has invited BSCF members to visit on November 28 [since changed to December 4 due to the Thanksgiving holiday]. Consideration is being given to arranging for a bus to take members there. More information will be available at the November meeting.

Bob Stevens announced the silent auction results and door prize and raffle tickets were drawn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Salvas

## The First Thanksgiving Menu

### Foods That May Have Been on the Menu

**Seafood:** Cod, Eel, Clams, Lobster

**Wild Fowl:** Wild Turkey, Goose, Duck, Crane, Swan, Partridge, Eagles

**Meat:** Venison, Seal

**Grain:** Wheat Flour, Indian Corn

**Vegetables:** Pumpkin, Peas, Beans, Onion, Lettuce, Radishes, Carrots

**Fruit:** Plums, Grapes

**Nuts:** Walnuts, Chestnuts, Acorns

**Herbs and Seasonings:** Olive Oil, Liverwort, Leeks, Dried Currants, Parsnips



### What Wasn't on the Menu

Surprisingly, the following foods, all considered staples of the modern Thanksgiving meal, didn't appear on the pilgrim's first feast table:

**Ham:** There is no evidence that the colonists had butchered a pig by this time, though they had brought pigs with them from England.

**Sweet Potatoes/Potatoes:** These were not common.

**Corn on the Cob:** Corn was kept dried out at this time of year.

**Cranberry Sauce:** The colonists had cranberries but no sugar at this time.

**Pumpkin Pie;** It's not a recipe that exists at this point, though the pilgrims had recipes for stewed pumpkin.

**Chicken/Eggs:** We know that the colonists brought hens with them from England, but its unknown how many they had left at this point or whether the hens were still laying.

**Milk:** No cows had been aboard the *Mayflower*, though it's possible that the colonists used goat milk to make cheese.

Source: Kathleen Curtin, Food Historian at Plimoth Plantation

## Directions to Michael's Bromeliads

Take I-75 South past Sarasota to exit 193. Take a left off exit on to Jacaranda Blvd. and go 3/4 mile to Border Rd. Take a right on Border Rd. and go 1 3/4 miles to First Dirt Road (one block past Jackson). Take left on First Dirt Road. Michael's Bromeliads is the second property on the left (973 First Dirt Road). The telephone number is 941-488-4011.

Meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month from 7-9 PM at Harry P. Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Avenue in Orlando. For directions: 407.246.2620 or [www.leugardens.org](http://www.leugardens.org). You'll enjoy informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, refreshments & door prizes. Members also receive a monthly newsletter — all for only \$10 per member, plus \$2 per additional family member (no charge for full-time students). Visitors are always welcome.

**BSCF is a nonprofit Florida corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations to this society are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.**



BSCF is an affiliate of the Bromeliad Society International, Inc. and a member of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. and the Cryptanthus Society.

<b>President</b>	<b>Karen Andreas</b>	karen@fcbs.org
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Bob Stevens</b>	Use above address for officers
<b>Secretary,</b>	<b>Betty Salvas</b>	
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	<b>Sudi Hipsley</b>	
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<b>FCBS Rep</b>	<b>Karen Andreas</b>	
<b>Refreshment</b>		
<b>Coordinators</b>	<b>Kathy Phinney &amp; Sue Rhoads</b>	



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Please send all correspondence to the address below:*



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**November 2004**

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**No Member Market This Month**

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**Speaker: Grant Groves      Grant will have plants for sale**

**Show & Tell: All members**

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**Raffle Plants: All members**

