



**FLORIDA COUNCIL
of
BROMELIAD SOCIETIES INC.
Newsletter**

This Newsletter published by Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. & mailed to all paid up members of those Bromeliad Societies of Florida which make up the Council. Non-members may subscribe for \$2.00 per year.

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Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

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VOLUME XVI - ISSUE II

MAY 1996

CATCHING UP - STAYING EVEN

GOOD NEWS! THE HUGE *ALCANTAREA IMPERIALIS* GROWING IN MY GREENHOUSE IS COMING INTO BLOOM, AND I JUDGE IT WILL BE ABOUT RIGHT FOR WORLD CONFERENCE. IT WAS STARTED FROM A BASAL FEATHER IN THE EARLY '70s. THE UNUSUAL WINTER HAS TRIGGERED HEAVY, EARLY BLOOM ON NEARLY ALL BROMELIADS. *VRIESEA* BLOOMING SEASON SHOULD BE AT ITS PEAK IN MAY, BUT MINE HAVE NEARLY ALL FINISHED.

THE NEXT ISSUE IS THE ANNUAL ROSTER ISSUE. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL ADDRESSES BE CORRECTED BY AUGUST 1. THE TELEPHONE COMPANY HAS GONE BANANAS WITH FLORIDA AREA CODES THIS YEAR, SO PLEASE INCLUDE THE CORRECT ONES WHEN SENDING THE DIRECTORY.

FCBS, AT THE APRIL MEETING, PROPOSED RAISING THE NEWSLETTER ASSESSMENT FROM \$1.00 TO \$2.00 (PER MAIL ADDRESS) PLEASE CONSIDER CAREFULLY BEFORE VOTING PRO OR CON ON THIS MATTER AT YOUR SOCIETY MEETING. FCBS FINANCES SEEM TO BE SOLID, BUT WE HAVE ASSUMED THE EXTRAORDINARY EXPENSE OF FUNDING WEEVIL RESEARCH. WE NEED TO RAISE THE ASSESSMENT OR FIND ALTERNATIVE FUND-RAISING SOURCES. WE ARE UNLIKELY TO RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FROM COMMERCIAL SOURCES SINCE THE WEEVIL IS EASILY CONTROLLED IN GREENHOUSE CULTURE. THE COUNCIL IS MIGHTILY CONCERNED, HOWEVER, ABOUT OUR NATIVE SPECIES IN THE WILD. THE 1989 FREEZE DESTROYED *TILLANDSIA UTRICULATA* IN THE NORTH HALF OF FLORIDA AND THE WEEVIL HAS GOTTEN THOSE IN THE SOUTH HALF, SO THE SPECIES IS NOW NEARLY EXTINCT STATEWIDE. WE MUST FIND A CONTROL OR ALL NATIVE SPECIES OF FLORIDA BROMELIADS WILL BE GONE.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER 14. THAT IS THE DATE OF THE 1996 FLORIDA EXTRAVAGANZA, TO BE HELD THIS YEAR AT SELBY BOTANICAL GARDENS, SARASOTA. THERE WILL BE MUCH MORE ON THIS IN THE AUGUST ISSUE.

IT IS INEVITABLE THAT THE CLOSER THE WORLD CONFERENCE DATE BECOMES, THE MORE I AM INCLINED TO REMEMBER THE

FIRST WORLD CONFERENCE HELD IN FLORIDA (ALSO IN ORLANDO) IN MAY OF 1980. MANY OF THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THIS ORLANDIANA 96 ARE THE SAME AS IN 1980, BUT ALSO THERE ARE SOME WHO ARE NO LONGER WITH US AT ALL. TO NAME A FEW, THERE ARE JAMES ELMORE, RALPH QUILHOT, DR. DEXTER, BILL RADFORD, MARY VALE, RACINE FOSTER--THESE PEOPLE WERE ALL GREATLY INVOLVED. WHO CAN FORGET JIM ELMORE'S ARABIAN NIGHTS BOOTH OR ANDY PRICE & HIS GANG WITH THE SOCIETY DISPLAY "30 YEARS & GROWING, AND NOT A BLOOM IN SIGHT"? WE HAD THE FIRST BROMELIAD ART COMPETITION AT A WC. THE SHERATON TWIN TOWERS FURNISHED AN IDEAL SHOW AREA ON THE GROUND FLOOR, WITH FULL WINDOWS BOTH SIDES. CARL PERRYIN SET UP THE JUDGED SHOW WITH THE TABLES RUNNING LIKE SPOKES FROM THE HEAD TABLE, WHICH WAS A RAISED AXLE. ELOISE BEACH TOOK MOST OF THE HORTICULTURE AWARDS, BUT BERT FOSTER WON BEST IN SHOW WITH HIS ENORMOUS GUZMANIA LINDENII, WHICH PROMPTLY DIED OF THE EXCITEMENT WHEN HE GOT IT BACK HOME. THAT TIME WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY FAMILY IN FLORIDA, AND WE HAVE BEEN A CLOSE GROUP EVER SINCE. WE FIGHT AND MAKE UP, CRITICIZE AND PRAISE, LIKE ANY FAMILY, BUT WE HAVE A COMMON CAUSE AND WE DO STAY TOGETHER. SINCE 1980, THERE HAVE BEEN TWO MORE WORLD CONFERENCES IN FLORIDA (MIAMI 1988, TAMPA 1992) AND ANOTHER EXCITING ONE COMING UP IN ORLANDO IN JULY. BE SURE YOU ARE A PART OF IT. YOU WOULDN'T MISS A FAMILY WEDDING, WOULD YOU?

HARRY LUTHER WOULD LIKE OUR HELP IN SORTING OUT THE IDENTITY OF A GROUP OF NEOREGELIAS AND ASKS THAT THE FOLLOWING LIVE PLANTS BE SENT TO HIM AT: 8LL S. PALM AVE.; SARASOTA, FL. 34236: NEOREGELIA JOHANNIS, MARMORATA, MARCON AND ANY CONCENTRICA TERMED "RED TIPS" OR "PINK TIPS". THESE PLANTS MUST BE FROM KNOWN MULFORD FOSTER COLLECTIONS.

ORLANDIANA '96: YOU GOT QUESTIONS? THERE ARE EIGHT PAGES OF ANSWERS IN THIS ISSUE, SO PLEASE READ ON. IF YOU CANNOT COME FOR THE FULL TIME, PLEASE TRY TO SPEND AT LEAST A DAY AT THE CONFERENCE. ADMISSION IS \$5.00, BUT FOR FLORIDA SOCIETY MEMBERS, THERE ARE \$1 OFF COUPONS AVAILABLE. ASK.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

First Quarter 1996 at 3/31/96

Beginning Balance, General Fund	8,263.43
Deposits during Quarter	6.00
	<u>\$ 8,269.43</u>

General Fund Expenses:

Bulk Mail Permit	85.00	
Fla. Corp. Tax	61.25	
Ed Hall, Chair. Exp.	8.63	
Tru Dimension, Vol. XVI #1	474.01	
Mail " " "	86.60	
100-32 cent stamps	<u>32.00</u>	747.49

General Fund Balance, 3/31, Reconciled	<u>\$ 7,521.94</u>
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Weevil Fund:

Beginning Balance	\$8,426.33
Deposits	209.00
	<u>\$8,635.33</u>

Weevil Expense:

Escuela Agricola	1,500.00	
SHARE	1,300.00	
J.H.Frank, Expense	100.00	
	<u>2,900.00</u>	5,735.33

TOTAL BANK BALANCE, Reconciled, 3/31/96	<u>\$ 13,257.27</u>
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CANISTRUMS ARE COOL

THERE IS A RUMOR THAT THE "PUBLISH OR PERISH" CROWD IS EYEING GENUS CANISTRUM WITH THE OBJECT OF PUTTING IT WITH NIDULARIUM. THEREFORE, I HASTEN TO DISCUSS CANISTRUM BRIEFLY WHILE IT IS STILL A SEPARATE GENUS. THERE ARE PROBABLY NO MORE THAN A DOZEN SPECIES OF CANISTRUM AND ALL ARE NATIVE TO BRAZIL. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF *C. GIGANTEUM*, ALL ARE LOW ALTITUDE PLANTS AND THEREFORE WELL SUITED FOR GROWING IN FLORIDA. THERE ARE TWO FORMS --THOSE WITH THE INFLORESCENCE SUNK IN THE CENTER AND THOSE WITH THE BLOOM SPIKE RAISED ABOVE THE FOLIAGE. AGAIN, SOME REQUIRE LOW LIGHT GROWING CONDITIONS, BUT OTHERS THRIVE IN STRONG LIGHT, ESPECIALLY WHEN MOUNTED. MONOGRAPH XIV LISTS THEM AS TERRESTRIAL AND EPIPHYTIC, BUT MY EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN THAT SOIL GROWN PLANTS WILL EVENTUALLY WRIGGLE FREE SO THAT THE ROOTS LIE ON THE SURFACE. TIME WAS I ROOT-PRUNED AND REPOTTED, UNTIL IT DAWNED THAT THESE PLANTS WANT TO BE MOUNTED. I HAVE LISTED BELOW THE FORMS OF CANISTRUM WHICH I GROW, IN THE ORDER OF BEST TO WORST (IN MY OPINION).

1. *C. AURANTIACUM*. GROW IN BRIGHT LIGHT, MOUNTED, FOR BEST FOLIAGE COLOR AND PLANT PERSONALITY. IT IS QUITE LARGE AND STOLONIFEROUS. UNLIKE OTHER CANISTRUM, THE FLOWERS ARE A DEEP, GOLDEN YELLOW--ALMOST ORANGE. IT THRIVES WITHOUT FEEDING AND IS COLD TOLERANT.

2. *C. CYATHIFORME*. MEDIUM SIZE, WITH GREEN MOTTLED FOLIAGE, WELL SERRATED. BLOOM SPIKE IS RAISED ABOVE THE PLANT, BRACTS ARE ROSE COLORED, FLOWERS WHITE WITH YELLOW STAMENS. IT IS SLOW GROWING AND A STINGY PUPPER. I GROW IT POTTED, BUT SOMEDAY I WILL TRY IT MOUNTED AND IN BRIGHT LIGHT AS IT WOULD SURELY BE A KNOCKOUT THAT WAY.

3. *C. PERPLEXUM*. I ACQUIRED THIS PLANT FROM THE JULIAN NALLY COLLECTION AND DID NOT GET A PROPER IDENTIFICATION UNTIL IT BLOOMED. IT HAS AN ASTONISHING BLOOM SPIKE, CARRIED WELL ABOVE THE PLAIN GREEN WIDE-LEAVED FOLIAGE (THIS CANISTRUM LOOKS MORE LIKE A NIDULARIUM THAN ANY OTHER SPECIES IN THE GENUS). BRACTS ARE PALE ROSE, THE FLOWERS CHALKY WHITE OR PALE BLUE, BUT THIS IS THEN TOPPED BY A BIG WAD OF WHITE COTTONY FILAMENT. THE PLANT SELF-SEEDED AND I AM NOW OVERSTOCKED. LOW LIGHT.

4. *C. TRIANGULARE*. SOME YEARS AGO WE CALLED THIS PLANT *C. LEOPARDINUM* AND IT WAS WHAT I TERMED "TEACHER'S PET" BECAUSE SHOW JUDGES REALLY WENT FOR IT AND GAVE IT TOP HONORS. IT IS A SMALL, HARD LEAVED, STOLONIFEROUS PLANT WITH SPOTTED FOLIAGE AND BLACK LEAF SPINES. IT SHOULD BE MOUNTED, GROWN FAIRLY DRY AND IN BRIGHT LIGHT. WHEN POTTED, IT IS DIFFICULT TO KEEP THE LEAVES HEALTHY. I HAVE NEVER NOTICED IT IN BLOOM, AND MONOGRAPH XIV DOES NOT MENTION FLOWERS OR COLOR, EITHER.

5. *C. LINDENII*. THIS IS THE BEST KNOWN SPECIES IN THE GENUS, BUT, EXCEPT FOR *C. LINDENII VARIEGATA* AND *C. LINDENII ALBO-MARGINATA ELATUM*, I VOTE FOR SENDING ALL THE REST BACK TO BRAZIL. THEY ARE BIG, LOW LIGHT, GREEN PLANTS WITH (USUALLY) A SUNKEN COLORLESS INFLORESCENCE. *C. LINDENII ALBO-MARGINATA* GROWS TO ENORMOUS SIZE, HAS A HANDSOME, RAISED BLOOM SPIKE AND THE MARGINATION IS STABLE. IT AND THE VARIEGATED FORM ARE ATTRACTIVE PLANTS, BUT THE VARIEGATED FORM TENDS TO LOSE VARIEGATION WITH MATURITY OR WHEN GROWN IN BRIGHT LIGHT.

WEEVIL FUND ANALYSIS

FUND SOURCES:

Bromeliad Society of South Florida	1,478.00
Seminole Bromeliad Society	810.60
Bromeliad Society of Central Florida	470.00
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society	7,111.00
West Pasco Bromeliad Society	387.00
Imperial Polk Bromeliad Society	195.00
Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society	940.00
Sarasota Bromeliad Society	627.00
Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay	5,000.00
Jacksonville Bromeliad Society	26.00
Broward Bromeliad Society	310.00
Nat DeLeon	255.40
Pineapple Place	130.00
Frank Cowan	20.00
H. Tarver	10.00
Polly Pascal	10.00
Miscellaneaou	58.00
Connie Johnson	55.00
Total	<u>\$17,893.00</u>

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.
MINUTES FROM APRIL 27, 1996 MEETING
SUBMITTED: JOY MEYER, ACTING SECRETARY

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN AL MUZZELL AT 1:20 PM IN THE SEMINAR ROOM OF THE DEPT. OF ENTOMOLOGY & NEMATOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA; GAINESVILLE, FL. THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING WERE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

TREASURER'S REPORT: CAROL JOHNSON DISTRIBUTED THE PRINTED REPORT:

GENERAL FUND BALANCE, 3/31/96	\$ 7,521.94
WEEVIL FUND BALANCE, 3/31/96	5,735.33
TOTAL	\$13,257.27

REPORT ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

DISCUSSION OF TWO POSSIBLE BROMELIAD SOCIETIES IN THE BOCA RATON & VERO BEACH AREAS FOLLOWED. ED HALL WILL CHECK IT OUT.

NEW OFFICERS: LOU WILSON OF THE CBS WAS WELCOMED AS VICE CHAIRMAN.

ORLANDIANA 1996: ED HALL DISTRIBUTED PACKETS WITH PLANT ENTRY FORMS. NARDA ENANDER BROUGHT UP THE NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE CONFERENCE. SHE REPORTED THAT VOLUNTEERS FOR AT LEAST TWO HOURS WOULD RECEIVE A MEAL VOUCHER. DISCUSSION FOLLOWED ABOUT WHETHER PLANNING WAS IN PLACE FOR THE BENEFIT AUCTION FOR BIC. CAROL JOHNSON VOLUNTEERED TO CONTACT CONF. CHAIRMAN BUD MARTIN ABOUT IT.

EXTRAVAGANZA 1996: THE EXTRAVAGANZA & AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 14 IN SARASOTA AND WILL BE COORDINATED BY DON BEADLE. THE NEXT FCBS MEETING, JULY 20, WILL BE PRIMARILY DEVOTED TO EXTRAVAGANZA DISCUSSION.

PUBLICATION COSTS FOR THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER WERE DISCUSSED. CURRENTLY THE QUARTERLY COSTS \$2.50 PER ADDRESS PER YEAR TO PUBLISH. CURRENT ASSESSMENT IS \$1.00 PER ADDRESS PER YEAR. CAROL JOHNSON SUGGESTED THAT FCBS REPS TAKE THE QUESTION OF RAISING THE ASSESSMENT TO \$2.00 PER YEAR BACK TO THEIR RESPECTIVE CLUBS FOR APPROVAL. ADOPTED.

