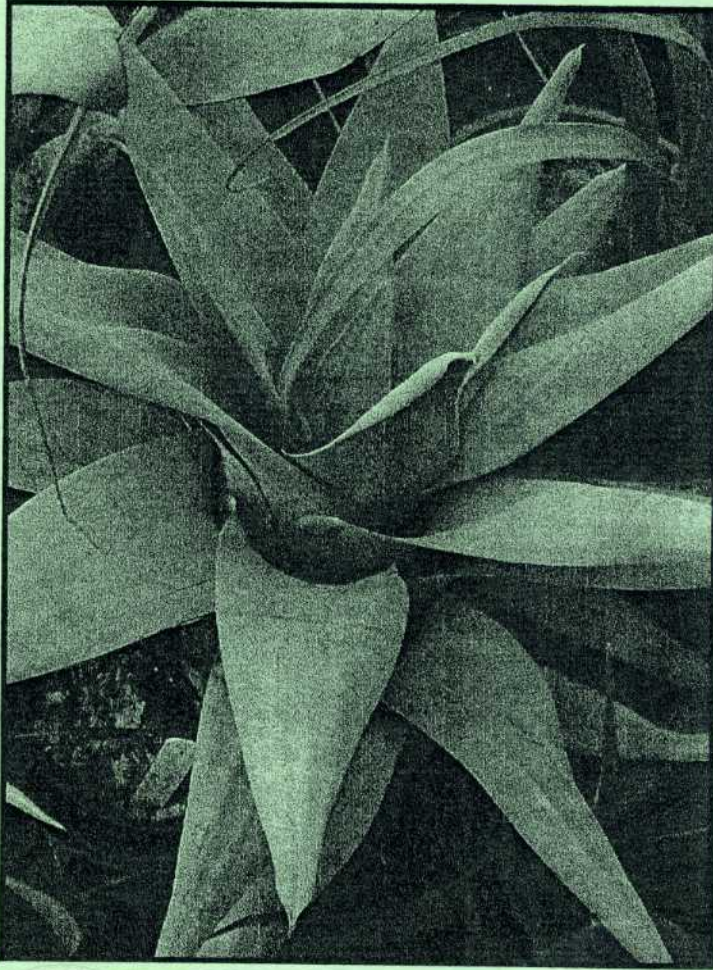


FLORIDA COUNCIL  
of BROMELIAD  
SOCIETIES INC.  
Newsletter



*Vriesea funebris* ?

Photo by Len Dolatowski  
If I Remember correctly this is a Karl Green plant



2002

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**March 2, 2002  
Bromeliad Symposium  
Outline**

Location: Recreation Hall at  
Highlands Hammock State Park

Date: March 2, 2002  
Time: 8:45 am to 3:00pm, then  
field excursion

**Planned Speakers:**

8:45am- introduction and wel-  
come by Dorothy Harris, Park  
Ranger (10 minutes)

9:00am (45 minutes and 15 min-  
utes for discussion/questions)  
Mr. Dennis Cathcart of Tropicflora  
in Sarasota  
941-351-2267  
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-A well known bromeliad grower,  
who has had personal experience  
dealing with *Metamasius callizona*  
in his nursery. Will discuss bro-  
meliads as an industry and the  
ways that this exotic pest is affect-  
ing the industry.

10:05am (45 minutes and 15 min-  
utes for discussion/questions)  
Mr. Harry Luther, Director Bro-  
meliad Identification Cen-  
ter/Curator, Living Collections  
The Marie Selby Botanical Gar-  
dens

-Considered to be the "authority"  
on bromeliads, he has graciously  
agreed to join us and speak on  
bromeliad diversity, distribution

and the general ecology of these  
amazing plants.

11:05 am 15 minute break

11:20am (45 minutes and 15 minutes  
for discussion/questions)

Dr. J. Howard Frank  
Entomology and Nematology Dept.  
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0190  
jhf@mail.ifas.ufl.edu

-Dr. Frank now leads a project on  
biological control on *Metamasius*  
*callizona*, the Mexican bromeliad  
weevil. A much earlier project of  
his was on ecology of some mos-  
quito species whose larvae develop  
in water trapped in bromeliad leaf  
axils. He will speak about the inver-  
tebrate animals, including insects,  
that depend on bromeliads as habitat  
and/or food in Florida and else-  
where.

12:30 LUNCH BREAK (lunch items  
available at the Hammock Inn in  
picnic area, as well as at  
various restaurants either north or  
south on US Highway 27)

1:45pm (45 minute presentation-  
15minutes for discussion, followed  
by field excursion & collecting)  
Ms. Barbra Larson  
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-Ms. Larson has been spearheading  
the effort to promote seed collec-

tions of the now endangered bromeliad species in Florida. She has developed a presentation on the *Metamasius callizona*, or Mexican bromeliad weevil, and will inform us on this exotic pest and the damage it is causing to our native bromeliads. Additionally, she will lead a training excursion after lunch to offer hands-on seed collecting for symposium participants. (no prior exp. necessary and it's not strenuous!)

Sheets for additional collection dates will be posted in the event that you need to leave early, please join us on some of our other dates for this very important effort! Your volunteer assistance may help save our local populations of these beautiful plants.

For those wishing to remain in the park for lunch, the Hammock Inn is open and serves a full, very reasonably priced luncheon menu, as well as their famous Hammock and Wild Orange Pies, shakes and snacks. They will also be open for breakfast at 7:00am for those who might like to eat together prior to the symposium. Located in the picnic area of the park, (it is about a 10 minute brisk walk), parking is available. (exit through campground to main road, turn right, travel about 1/2 block, turn left into picnic area, it is the building on the right.) They are open 7am to 5pm, 863-385-4136

## **WBC2002 MAY14-19 HILTON ST. PETE**

It is time for some enthusiastic promotion of the World Bromeliad Conference which will take place at the Hilton, St. Pete in May. We only have three months to work, for things must be in place by April 14.

Reservations made at the hotel after April 14 will not count toward our room-night count nor will the registrants receive the special rate.

The Sales Room set-up is nearly complete. We are reserving quite a few tables for Member's Sales for those who have pups and plants to sell, but who do not want to bother with a booth. March 1 is the absolute deadline for notifying Joyce Brehm that one wishes to sell in Member's Sales and requesting barcodes.

We want to have 100% participation from the Florida Bromeliad Societies in the Display Area. Several have already committed to a floor display but even a table top display or scrapbook of society activities will be interesting to those attending the Conference.

Even for Florida residents the Dolotowskis tour list is a fantastic opportunity. Pick and choose, but participate in some of these tours at a very reduced price. A full explanation of each day's tour is

on the BSI.org website and is included in each registrant's letter. Tours may be reserved on line at BSI.org and paid for by credit card.

The Show Schedule Committee has finished with the Schedule, with the exception of the Artistic Arrangement Section. The Schedule is essentially the same as all our Florida Show Schedules. It will be posted in abbreviated form on the BSI Website. Please urge members to begin looking over their plants for likely entries in the WBC show. We plan to send a copy to all Florida Societies and will also send a schedule to those registrants who request one.

Help is needed at the Conference in the areas of Show Placement [we request a bit of experience or a willingness to quickly learn], Security, Tours and the Hospitality-Registration desk .

The cut off date for having a "best wishes" ad in the Conference Program is rapidly approaching. To join the list of well wishers requires a \$10 donation to WBC2002. Please send these good wishes to Carolyn Schoenau. March 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for requesting barcodes for members sales. Selling a few excess pups and adult bromeliads can help defray expenses of a vacation at the WBC2002 in St. Petersburg. Barcodes insure a full reimbursement of sales. They only have to be re-

quested of Joyce Brehm and attached to the plant. A chance of a lifetime is waiting just for you!

This Conference will distribute some beautiful new hybrids to Registrants and the Registrant Packet will be a wonderful surprise....the most generous packet that has ever been offered.

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION CHECK OUT THE "UPCOMING CONFERENCE"----BSI.ORG

THANKS, KEN [AND MIKE AT FCBS.ORG

GENERAL & SHOW INFORMATION: HATTIE LOU SMITH...SSMITH1613@AOL.COM

SALES: JOYCE BREHM...JOYCESJOY@AOL.COM

DISPLAYS OR EXHIBITS:  
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**THE 2001 BROMELIAD  
EXTRAVAGANZA WAS A  
HUGE SUCCESS**

By Eloise Beach

The Extravaganza, hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida on October 27 at the Maitland

Civic Center, will be remembered as "one of the best ever staged." The attendees were raving about everything, including the facility. It was so well received that some people even wanted to have it here EVERY YEAR. (Sorry, but it will continue to rotate around the state-next year in Daytona Beach).

Everyone who worked behind the scenes and at the event can be very proud that the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida will be remembered as hosting a world class event. Many BSCF members worked long hours that day—some from before sunrise until after midnight & even the next morning. We don't have an accurate list of everyone who worked but a huge THANK YOU goes to everyone who came to work, buy plants & just visit with friends. The Extravaganza Committee members were Ed Hall, Chairman; Eloise Beach, John Boardman, Pam Flesher, Nancy Hall, Kathy Law and Jim Pearce.

The Home & Garden TV Network sent a crew from Canada to film at the Extravaganza, Leu Gardens & some BSCF members' gardens. Maybe you will catch that episode on TV.

The Plant Sale was stuffed with an amazing variety of bromeliads- 54 tables overflowed with colorful, unusual, rare, and many bargain-priced plants. Recorded music from South American bands enter-

tained the shoppers. The Bromeliad Society International was selling back issues of the Journal and you could even buy copies of the very rare out-of-print GRANDE Magazine. Equally amazing was the fact that the room was filled with buyers ALL DAY. It was a feeding frenzy. People just kept shopping & buying more. The big effort spent on publicity through live radio spots by Eloise Beach plus great support by the Orlando Sentinel, neighborhood papers, newspapers throughout the state as well as local radio & TV public service announcements really brought out the general public. Our small staff of plant sale workers did a tremendous job of handling the big crowds. The plant sellers who took the time to participate were also extremely happy.

The membership drive brought in 8 new members for BSCF and one new member for the Bromeliad Society International.

The hourly seminars were well attended and lots of prizes were awarded to those who came to learn. Our seven guest speakers, invited by John Boardman, were well prepared and gave very interesting presentations. Thanks again to: Wilma Paulauskas, Orlando; Barbra Larson, Gainesville; Tom Wolfe, Lutz; Grant Groves, Winter Garden; Beth Lamb, Sebring; John Russell, Sanford; and Michael Andreas, Merritt Island.

