

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc.



In this issue:

**2012 Florida Bromeliad Sources
World Bromeliad Conference
Artist Stephen Littlefield**

Vol. 32 Issue 2

May 2012

FCBS Affiliated Societies and Representatives



Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Tom Wolfe (813) 961-1475 bromeliadsociety@juno.com
Eileen Hart (813) 920-2987 eplants@hotmail.com

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

Jose Donayre (954) 925-5112 jcadonayre@bellsouth.net
Sara Donayre (954) 925-5112 Sarasdonayre@bellsouth.net

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Lisa Robinette (321) 303-7615 lisasbromeliads@hotmail.com
Ben Klugh (407-833-9494) Klughka@yahoo.com

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Michael Michalski (305) 279-2416 pgonza7782@aol.com
Patty Gonzalez (305) 279-2416 pgonza7782@aol.com

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society

Vicky Chirnside (941) 493-5825 dampearth@me.com

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Calandra Thurrott (386) 761-4804 Cal4cat@cfl.rr.com
Steven Provost (368) 428-9687 3fox3@att.net

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

Ashley Graham (727) 501-2872 adglaw@gmail.com
Susan Sousa (727) 391-5455 sousansousa1@yahoo.com

(continued on the inside back cover)



September 26 - 30, 2012
Orlando, Florida
See pages 26—39 for details

2013 Bromeliad Extravaganza
Sponsored by
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
Hosted by
Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society
Date and location to be announced

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Catching Up ... Staying Even



The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies is now on Facebook. This Facebook page is updated regularly and offers information on upcoming bromeliad sales and events as well as the World Bromeliad Conference and new features on the Council website.

When you send information about your society's sales and events, that information will be posted on the Florida Council website (fcbs.org - "Upcoming Events") as well as on Facebook. Please encourage your members to "like" the Council's Facebook page!

If you would like your society's events to be promoted via email, contact the Florida Council representatives and ask that their societies network the information through their societies' own email list. Email addresses and phone numbers for all Council representatives are listed on the inside covers of each Council newsletter.

In this issue, Florida artist Stephen Littlefield is profiled. So many of us have known Steve for years and seen him at bromeliad shows with his art and his t-shirts. Pictures of some of his art will be featured in the Stephen Littlefield Gallery on fcbs.org. This article will also be posted on the Council site under Bromeliad People. If you know of artists whose work should be featured in the Gallery or who might like to be profiled in this newsletter, please let me know.

Recently questions have come up at both the Council meetings and in an email campaign, questioning the Council's policies about the newsletter and the electronic resources now available to many, if not most, of our members. This column, first

established by Carol Johnson to keep everyone apprised of news and information, is the perfect place to answer those inquiries.

Why are there no pictures in the newsletter? In the past, black and white pictures were published in the newsletter, with mixed results. It is difficult to ensure clear, clean black and white photographs on uncoated (plain) paper as is used in this newsletter. Also because of the weight of the uncoated stock, black and white pictures can bleed through to the other side.

Why not use color photographs? That comes down to cost, plain and simple. To use a coated (slick) stock, which would be best for color pictures, and print just four pages would almost double the cost of the newsletter. Many of the articles published in this newsletter contain directions on where to go on the Council site to view pictures to illustrate the material.

Why not email the newsletter or publish it online? Having a subscription to the newsletter is a direct benefit of belonging to one of the ten bromeliad societies that are affiliated with the Council. It is important to remember that, even in this cyber age, many people still are not online and many still prefer to have material in hand.

As a not-for-profit corporation, the Council is required to promote bromeliad education and science. An in-your hands publication fulfills part of that obligation; the Florida Council website fulfills that as well and is completely accessible. Eventually older issues of the newsletter will be available online. If you want to stay current and read about bromeliads and societies in Florida, you need to join an affiliated bromeliad society.

The August issue of the newsletter will carry the contact information for all of our members. Please make sure that your contact information is up to date with your society to ensure

2012 Florida Bromeliad Sources



ACME Bromeliads

David Smith

14818 Shaw Road, Tampa 33625

813-962-6279 (home); 813-241-5009 (cell)

Evenings and weekends, call for appointment

Email smithd188@gmail.com

Growing Neoregelia, Vriesea and landscape Aechmea

Bud's Bromeliads

Buddy Singleton

11060 Shirley Lane, North Fort Myers 33917

239-543-3614

buddyjudys1@aol.com

Visits by appointment.

Boggy Creek Bromeliads

Betsy McCrory

3615 Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee 34744

407-348-2139 By appointment only

Specializing in landscape bromeliads (Aechmea and Neoregelia)

Bromeliads Galore

Dave Johnston

6399 90th Avenue North, Pinellas Park 33782

Home: 727-544-9187; cell: 727-481-5962

Hours are after 4:00 PM Monday through Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday; call for appointment

johnston28@tampabay.rr.com

Approximately 1500 different species and hybrids in pretty much all genera across the board, including bi-generics.



Jungle Gems

Marty Baxley
4719 Huron Rd.
St. Petersburg 33708
727-504-8951
susiebaxley@verizon.net
By appointment
Selections from all genera

Michael's Bromeliads

Michael and Donna Kiehl
973 First Dirt Road, Venice 34292
Cell: 727-415-7276; fax: 941-488-1002
Nursery open daily by appointment.
info@michaelsbromeliads.com;
website: www.michaelsbromeliads.com; visit us on Facebook
We specialize in a wide range of bromeliad types including
Neoregelia, Billbergia, foliage Vriesea and terrestrial varieties.
Visitors are always welcome, please call or email for an
appointment. Our current catalog is available on our website at
www.michaelsbromeliads.com.

The Nature Collection

Shirley and Richard Konefal
2319 Taylor Street, Hollywood, FL. 33020
954-922-5582
By appointment only
grillskonefal@aol.com
www.thenaturecollection.com; www.facebook.com/pages/The
-Nature-Collection/123218014400179
A retail bromeliad nursery ranging from small collectibles to
large landscaping specimens; shipped across the USA.

continued

Plants N Things by George

George and Irene Aldrich
746 NE 35th Street, Ocala 34479-2712
352-629-1913 By appointment
plantsnthings5@cox.net
Specializing in bromeliads

Powell's Nursery

1002 Bay Vista Drive, Tarpon Springs 34689
727-938-0831

Hours: 8:00 – 5:00 daily – call first

rwpowellthecompletepoet@verizon.net

Bromeliads and many tropical foliage plants including a variety of ferns, philodendrons, nephytis, spathiphyllum, corn plants, etc. Powell's sells many tropicals in one gallon pots, 3 for \$5.00 (wholesale or retail).

Randy's Bromeliads & More, Inc.

Randy Garcia

813-241-0500

Mail order only

<http://www.randysbromeliads.com>

randysbromeliads@msn.com

Russell's Bromeliads

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Tropiflora

Dennis and Linda Cathcart

3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota 34243

800-613-7520/941-351-2267; fax 941-351-6985

sales@tropiflora.com website www.tropiflora.com

Monday - Friday, 8:00 - 5:00; Saturday, 8:00 - 3:00

Established in 1976, our nursery specializes in collectible plants such as bromeliads, but includes orchids, succulents, aroids, much more. Our bromeliad collection includes 4,000 varieties of species and hybrids, an inventory of over 1,000,000 plants housed in 6 acres of greenhouses and shade houses. Primarily a mail order nursery, but visitors are welcome.



The Florida Council Online!

Like the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies on Facebook!

Leave messages and participate in discussions about bromeliads and upcoming events on Facebook!

Check our Facebook page for listings of bromeliad shows and sales.

Don't forget to check out fcbs.org for bromeliad society newsletters (under "Member Societies") and new features and pictures on the site (under "What's New").

News from FCBS Affiliated Societies



IRS Form for Societies

Betsy McCrory, Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, wants to remind bromeliad society treasurers that Form 990N must be filed with the IRS in order to maintain your society's not-for-profit status. If you miss the deadline, your society will lose its not-for-profit status. The form is available on the IRS publications website. If you need help, you can contact Betsy at Betsymccrory@aol.com or 407-348-2139.

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

The BGTB has just closed a very successful show and sale. We had 235 show entries and were judged by four accredited Judges and three students judges. The Federation of Garden Clubs and the BGTB shared the building with the two shows held simultaneously. The theme was "Orange Blossom Express" which was the famous train that brought people from the Northeast to see Florida for the first time. The stage was set as a simulated park scene. Carol Wolfe contrived a revolving power point program show on a 12' x 12' screen on the back of the stage. The revolving program of old trains and pictures of bromeliads, orchids, and other tropical plants was continuous throughout the show. The screen was surrounded by tall palms and some 76 Guzmanias and two park benches donated by the Garden Circles of the Federation of Garden Clubs. There were vendors on the front lawn of the Garden Clubs which attracted additional public. Our spring picnic and auction will be in place of our May meeting on May 21, at 6:30 PM starting with a covered dish dinner followed by a plant auction. This is one of our major fund raising events of the year. It's open to the public so join us if you wish. Tom Wolfe



Bromeliad Society of South Florida

After the success of his program on preparing bromeliads for judging, Mike Michalski is planning another program on the basics of plants such as potting, making up soil, removing pups from their mothers, fertilizing. It's a great review as well as an introduction to the basics for new members. In April, members had a tram ride through Fairchild Botanical Gardens at night. Mike Michalski

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

"Garden Fest" this year did not include a bromeliad show as BSBC does so every other year. This very successful event, the second of its type, took place on March 24-25. It brought together 55 vendors of plants, including bromeliads as well as plant related objects. The society held its elections in April with the same slate of officers as in the previous year, with the exception of one director. Jose Donayre

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

The Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society's meeting for February was a two-part program. The first part was "My Favorite Bromeliad Love In." Since February is Valentine Month, we had our own version of a "Love In." Members were encouraged to bring their favorite bromeliad to show to other members and to give a reason why the plant was their favorite plant at that time. The second part of the program was a unique or rare bromeliad auction with the plants going to the highest bidders. April was a plant sale month. There was a huge selection of bromeliads, orchids, gingers, aroids and other tropical plants for sale. Even though there was competition with many events happening at the same time, the sale went well. The next sale will be happening in August. Also, the Society's Vice-President, Bud Martin, appeared on the Tom MacCubban Show (AM 540) on Saturday, April 14. Kay Klugh

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

In March our club enjoyed our sale at Leu Gardens. The April meeting was devoted how to clean up those plants for show. May 11-13 was our 37th Annual Mother's Day Show and Sale at Fashion Square Mall with a picnic following for that month. Lisa Robinette

Gainesville Bromeliad Society

This year we are enjoying an excellent program of speakers arranged by our vice president Irene Aldrich. Coming up in later meetings are talks by Dennis Cathcart, Dave Johnston, Ray Lemieux, and our local member Peggy Mixon. We started off the year with a presentation on bromeliads in Costa Rica by George Aldrich and a talk in April on bromeliad basics by Jay Thurrott. Adding to each meeting has been the exchange and sale of some really outstanding plants from our guests and members. The Gainesville Bromeliad Society completed a successful sale at the Spring Garden Festival in Kanapaha Gardens in which many society members participated. Our newsletter editor Hjordis Owens took the lead in preparing a new web site for our society. Check it out at gainesvillebromeliadsociety.org. David Silverman

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

The FECBS meets on the second Sunday of the month at 1:30 pm in The Colony in the Wood Clubhouse at 4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd, Port Orange 32129. The public and members of other bromeliad societies are always welcome. The January meeting was the first meeting under the direction of our new officers whom were elected at the December meeting. At the meeting, President Rick Ryals, discussed some of the activities that the new officers would like to undertake during the upcoming year. The program was member conducted and members were given the opportunity to bring in and discuss their most favored and least favorite bromeliad. At the February meeting, mounting bromeliads on different types of media was demonstrated and all attendees were then given the

opportunity to mount one of their own bromeliads or one that was provided by the Society. The meeting room was set up with several workstations, and the society provided different types of mounting media and equipment that could be used by attendees. The meeting was well advertised which resulted in a standing room only attendance. Several individuals joined the society as a result of the meeting. The regularly scheduled April meeting fell on Easter Sunday so no meeting was held. Instead the members went on a ramble the following Sunday. They visited the homes of members Virginia Dornbach, Jane Upham, Bill Hazard and Eretta Morris all located in the Ormond Beach area. On Saturday April 21, the society was a vendor selling bromeliads at the 14th Annual Master Gardener Plant Faire. This event, which had an attendance of more than 850, is the primary fund raising event of the society. The society also participated as a vendor in the Spring Fling a fund raiser for the Sugar Mill Botanical Gardens in Port Orange on April 29. On May 6, the first field trip of the year was held and members traveled to Ocala to visit Plants N Things, the nursery of George Aldrich. Steve Provost

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society

The March annual auction was a great success; it raised over one thousand dollars for each of the CBS and the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, which will be used for their various projects. In April, the CBS celebrated its 32nd anniversary at the home of Buddy and Judy Singleton with perfect weather, great food, games and an exceptional raffle. An added treat was the thousands of bromeliads for sale from Bud's Bromeliads, Bud's nursery. CBS members Eleanor Kinzie and Betty Ann Prevatt have recently returned from Nassau, Bahamas after judging their Garden Club Plant Show. Bromeliads have been very popular there for decades. Although the extraordinary collection and gardens of the late Ulrich and Ursula Baensch, authors of the book: *Blooming Bromeliads*, no longer exists, their plants and generations of offsets are still grown throughout the Bahamas. Larry Giroux

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

Our 32nd Annual Show and Sale took place April 20-22 at the Manatee Convention Center. It was a success and a first for our program to be away from the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. We are currently evaluating all aspects of the show and sale to see what improvements will be needed before next year. A couple of basic elements of the society have been improved: an amended Bylaws and a newly printed Membership Directory. Two house tours are being planned for the coming weeks. David Johnson



Thank You

Thank you, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, for your \$1175.00 donation to the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

Thank you, The Cryptanthus Society, for your \$150.00 Donation in appreciation of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society hosting The Cryptanthus Show and Auction at the Bromeliad Extravaganza.

Thank you, Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society, for hosting the April quarterly meeting of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies recognizes the \$250.00 donation By the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida to the Mexican Bromeliad/ Evil Weevil Fund in memory of Al Muzzell.

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies is a 501(c)3 not for profit organization registered in the state of Florida. All contributions to the Council are tax deductible.

Stephen Littlefield

A Florida Artist's Life

by Karen Andreas

Florida Native Stephen Littlefield always knew what he wanted to be when he grew up. The middle child, he was always drawing and painting, including those paint by numbers kits. Creative from the very beginning, he painted outside the lines and found no satisfaction with the colors the paint by numbers kits provided. His already discerning eye was looking ahead. "Art," says Steve, "is not a good way to make a living but it's a wonderful way to make a life." Indeed.

Throughout his youth, camping and fishing were important parts of his life, and the Florida landscape began to figure in his art. Even today, Steve finds inspiration in the bromeliad gardens in the back yard of his Clearwater home. Steve shares this 1925 bungalow with wife Kathy; they are owned by two cats, Max the tiger and EB, a shy black and white.

As a young man, while working at a stereo store, Steve sold a sound system to Dr. Morris Dexter, a legendary figure in the Florida bromeliad community. That led to house sitting for the Dexters during the 1970s, and it was through that association that Steve was introduced to bromeliads.

Before each house sitting stint, Steve and Dr. Dexter would walk through the Dexter yard, and Dr. Dexter would talk about the bromeliads in that famed landscape. "I wish I had asked more questions," Steve reminisces, "but I was like an ant talking to God. Dr. Dexter was very intimidating." One day, Dr. Dexter asked Steve if he would like a bromeliad and which one. Steve's immediate reply was he would like a *Vriesea* 'Red Chestnut'. "No," replied the good doctor, "you will kill it." Regardless of the doctor's opinion, Steve says he has since killed a bunch of 'Red Chestnut' but also grown his fair share.

have noticed its prevalence in his art and yard in the ensuing years.

Steve and Kathy joined Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society in 1994; Steve won an award for a wood cut at the World Bromeliad Conference, which led to Bud Martin asking Steve to design the Orlandiana 1996 poster. Steve also was enjoying success selling his bromeliad print t-shirts at world conferences. These experiences all combined to launch his bromeliad art life.

Steve started out as a painter but he was introduced to printmaking at the University of South Florida. He first took a lithography class but found there was too much process involved. When he took etching, however, his interest took off. One of the strong appeals in this art form, Steve says, is that you can “keep a piece and sell it or give it away, unlike a painting that is one of a kind.” In 1979, a friend suggested that they build an etching press; since then, he has built six. One of his presses now resides at the Dunedin Fine Arts Center, where he has been teaching for 21 years.

There he taught drawing for two years and turned to woodcuts, an art form at least 1000 years old, and lino (linoleum) cuts. After eight years, the Center put in sinks used for etching: Steve then turned to teaching intaglio, a traditional printmaking process nearly 400 years old. No electricity is needed, the work is all hand done. Steve is drawn to this process for its purity, its historical and cultural heritage, and its expressiveness.

Steve’s preference of working in black and white is two-fold. The first is that he is attracted to the different and sometimes surreal shapes and forms of bromeliads. Steve does not regard himself as a botanical illustrator. Rather it is the purely visual that excites the artist that he is. Steve says, “The color I put into a picture is never as good or as complete as in your mind’s

Black and white is akin to listening to the radio; you know the subject, and it is up to your own imagination to fill in the rest; it's visual radio."

Secondly there is the delight and satisfaction of good design. Steve has been doing much of his art in black and white for 25 years now and believes that the work he has done has only strengthened his design skills. "You can hide bad design with color," he says, "but there is no place to hide in black and white." He returned to painting when his nephew asked him to paint a 6' x 28' mural in his restaurant. He painted three walls in the restaurant as a bromeliad shade house. Steve had always painted in oil but that was his introduction to acrylic painting. After the first 12 feet of the mural, he understood the properties of acrylic paint. The third painting after that experience became the World Bromeliad Conference poster for San Francisco in 2000.

Each wood cut or lino cut starts as a pencil drawing. Bromeliads from his own collection remain a great source of inspiration. Then Steve slips on his headphones – he loves books on tape – and begins the long intricate process of carving. He finds this to be a meditative process: "It is what I call the Ecstasy of Tedium," Steve says. "Having someone read to you, well, not much is better than that."

Steve's art ranges from the figurative to the surreal. Magritte and Escher have been influences. The detail of Escher is clearly reflected in Steve's wood and linocuts; in "A Vriesea for Mr. Magritte", the viewer immediately recognizes the homage. Steve also has worked in metal. His aluminum pineapples and Tillandsias have found their ways into landscapes – both in the ground and as hanging art.

His bromeliad print t-shirts are well-traveled beyond the United States. "I have t-shirts all over the world: South Africa, Australia, Japan, Europe," Steve says. That's a pretty wide

distribution.

Each year, Steve can be found at the Tropiflora Spring and Fall Sales, carving linoleum. “I always have a block I carve; in the fall, I am carving a block you will see in the spring; in the spring, it is the project that will be seen in the fall. There I get to see all my bromeliad friends and have an out of town weekend.” Steve speaks with great affection of so many people in our bromeliad community, including Wally Berg, Faye O’Rourke, Michael Kiehl, Dennis Cathcart. A current and surreal bromeliad painting he is working on includes an affectionate homage to Harry Luther.

Steve reflects, “I really am one of the luckiest people, and no more so than in having Kathy as my partner. She has been tremendously supportive of my art and shares my passion for bromeliads. I cut pups, she pots them, another great part of our partnership.

“I am living a better life through horticulture.”

Look for Steve as a vendor at the World Bromeliad Conference in Orlando in September.

Some of Steve’s artwork will be on display on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies’ website at fcbs.org under Bromeliad Art Gallery.



To Divide or Let It Clump?

by Kenneth Stokes



As the single plant we have purchased begins to grow and multiply, the decision has to be made whether to maintain single plants or let the plants multiply in one container. There are several factors that should be considered when making that decision.

Will the plant bloom if not allowed to clump? Some bromeliads do not bloom when separated into singles. One is *Ae. pectinata*. I have never seen it bloom, however I prefer the conformation of a beautiful rosette rather than an unattractive mass of leaves with an unspectacular bloom. To find out if your plant falls into this category, consult an experienced grower.

Will the blooming plant be more spectacular in a clump? Many smaller species make a stronger statement when grown in a mass. This is true whether it is being viewed for its foliage or when it is in its blooming stage. Typical genera where this is true would include *Tillandsia*, *Pitcairnia*, *Pepinia* and *Fosterella*.

Will the conformation be destroyed by being grown too closely together? When the correct conformation shape is a rosette or vase, distortion will occur when the plants are grown too closely together. This is true for such genera as *Aechmea*, *Hohenbergia* and *Neoregelia* species without stolons.

Does the plant have a spacing capability of its own? Many bromeliads have stolons which provide natural separation. Division by cutting into smaller clumps or separated into individual plants would be determined by whether it is too

large to handle, maintain or display.

Does the natural shape allow for close growth? Bromeliads with a tubular form are best for growing as clumps. The removal of old plants is all that is necessary to provide adequate separation. Typical genera where the tubular form occurs are *Billbergia* and *Quesnelia*.

Is the container or mount large enough to contain or support a larger clump? Moving the clump to a larger container is always an option. Even if roots are not going into the soil, larger pots provide more stability and ballast.

Will you be able to groom or move a huge clump? Being able to get into the center of a clump to remove dead leaves is important to the grooming process. It can also be a daunting task to attempt working on a clump with fifty little plants. Keep your clumps to a manageable size.

A tip that can make grooming your *Pitcairnia*s and *Fosterella*s easier is to remove all the leaves after the blooms have faded. Like many ferns and cycads, plants in these genera put on most of their new growth all at one time.



FCBS Newsletter Archive

The Florida Council webmaster and editor are planning to scan and create an archive of the newsletters of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies so that the collective knowledge and history of the organization is preserved and available online.

To that end, we need to borrow the following newsletters:

Volumes 1 through 9

Volume 10 #1 February 1990

Volume 11 #2 May 1991

Volume 16 #4 November 1996

Volume 18 #4

Volume 19#4

The newsletters will be returned as soon as they are scanned.

If you have any of them, please contact Michael Andreas at webmaster@fcbs.org or call 321-453-0366.



FCBS Roster

The August issue of the Council newsletter contains the state roster of members of all the Council's affiliated societies.

Please make sure that your name, address, phone number and email are current with your society so that the most accurate information can be published and to ensure that you continue to receive the Council newsletter.

Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Report

by Teresa M. Cooper¹, Ronald D. Cave¹,
and J. Howard Frank²

¹Indian River Research & Education Center, UF, Ft. Pierce, FL

²Entomology & Nematology Department, UF, Gainesville, FL



Fifty-five fly pupae were collected from our *Lixadmontia franki* colony in January 2012, 51 in February, and 59 in March, for a total of 165 this quarter. This is a slight increase from the total collected in the last quarter of 2011 (116 pupae).

Field trips are planned for April, May, and June to go to the Big Cypress National Preserve and the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park. We will monitor the weevil and bromeliad populations and collect weevil specimens to add to our laboratory colony. If our fly colony increases enough, we will release flies at infested sites.

Research includes:

- 1) Developing a new method for exposing weevil larvae to the flies in our fly cage; a few new methods have been devised and are being tested. Results are pending.
- 2) Testing parasitism by *L. franki* of *M. callizona* from our laboratory colony against a population of *M. callizona* from Belize, collected by Howard Frank, Dennis Giardina, Tim Andrus, and Erwin Williams from 29 October to 8 November 2010 along the coastal lowlands of Belize. Compared to the *M. callizona* from our laboratory colony, the Belize population has larger weevils without the stripe across the elytra. Results are pending.
- 3) Measuring life-time fertility of *M. callizona*. Data are being collected.

Publications:

Cooper, T.M., Frank, J.H., Cave, R.D. Loss of *Tillandsia utriculata* and its phytotelmata in the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary (Florida, USA) due to an invasive bromeliad-eating weevil and the effect on forest ecosystems. Submitted to *Acta Oecologia* on 30 March 2012.

Presentations:

Frank, J.H. presented at the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society in Port Orange: Hunting bromeliad-eating weevils in Belize.



Speakers List

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

Ray Lemieux: "Growing Bromeliads from Seed"

Marty Baxley: "Bromeliads from Growing to Showing"

Terrie Bert: "Preparations for Show and Sale"

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

Craig Morell had a very informative program on "Pest Control and Horticulture" on how to prevent pests on bromeliads and on the use and sources of the most effective pesticides.

Jose Donayre: "More than you want to know about Billbergias"

Joe Libertucci and Jeff Hutchinson from the Palm Beach Bromeliad Society gave an entertaining duet act on "What not to do to Bromeliads"

Charlie Birdsong: Neoregelias, particularly the subgenus *Hylaeum*

Reported by Jose Donayre

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Tom Wolfe: "Neo charcarodan and its varieties and cultivars"

Charlie Birdsong from the Baton Rouge Bromeliad Society:

Neoregelias with a focus on the subgenus Hylaeicum

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Ray Lemieux: "Serrulate Plants"

Dennis Cathcart: "Remembering Wally Berg"

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Mike Michalski: "Preparing Plants for the Show"

Terrie Bert: "Letters and Plants"

Dennis Cathcart: "Travels with Wally Berg"

Mike Michaelski: "How to Prepare Your Plants for Judging"

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

Terrie Bert: "Eight Bromeliad Genera O and P with a bonus L"

Kenneth Stokes: "Tips on how to grow bromeliads to their maximum potential"

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

Randy Knight, an SBTPS member and very experienced plantsman who now works with Meade Gardens. Randy's program was, "Begonias--Tropical Companions to Bromeliads." Randy spoke about how begonias work as companion plants with bromeliads and how they require similar culture to bromeliads and other tropical plants. He also brought plants for sale to benefit Meade Gardens. Kay Klugh

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Do you use gloves on your serrulate bromeliads? Ray Lemieux doesn't use any cause he says they get in the way! Ray gave another great talk with a hands on presentation on how to work on these rascals in February.

Dennis Cathcart: "Remembering Wally Berg"

Reported by Lisa Robinette

Gainesville Bromeliad Society

George Aldrich: "Bromeliads in Costa Rica"

Jay Thurrott: "Bromeliad Basics"

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Dr. Howard Frank presented a well-received program in March about his activities in Belize, hunting for bromeliad-eating weevils.

Reported by Steve Provost



Calendar of Events 2012

August 18-19

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Sale

The Garden Club of Sanford (on 17-92, one block south of Lake Mary Blvd)

9:00 – 4:00

Huge selection of bromeliads in many genera, orchids, aroids, gingers, other tropical plants, gift baskets, hand crafted slat baskets in several sizes. Free admission and free parking- Shop in air-conditioned comfort. 407-539-4314

September 24-30

Orlandiana - World Bromeliad Conference

See pages 26-39 for information

October 26-27

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Everybody's Flower & Garden Show

Presented by the Council of Garden Clubs of the Halifax District

Peabody Auditorium, 600 Auditorium Blvd., Daytona Beach

Friday 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

Saturday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

December 1-2

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Show and Sale

Terry Park

3451 Marion Street, Fort Myers



Sponsored by
The Bromeliad Society International

Hosted by
Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

September 26-30, 2012

Caribe Royal

8101 World Center, Orlando, Florida

888-258-7501

A link to hotel reservations is at fcbs.org

For information updates, check <http://fcbs.org>

Betsy McCrory
FCBS World Conference Chairman
betsymccrory@aol.com
(407) 348-2139

WBC Chairman's Message

by Betsy McCrory

Orlandiana 2012 is just around the corner. Have you registered yet? How about your hotel reservations?

The Caribe Royale is an all suites hotel with every room a suite with two big screen televisions, a microwave, refrigerator, coffee pot, and other items. Internet service is no charge for our conference, and there is no charge for parking. Also available are condos on the same property for guest who wants two bedrooms with a living room and full kitchen.

Be sure to bring your bathing suit so you can enjoy the huge swimming pool in the middle of the property. If you are into exercising, you will not be disappointed with the two story exercising area. On site there are two restaurants: one that is casual with good food; and the other, a four star dining experience. There is a large snack bar where you can purchase sandwiches, cookies, drinks, fresh fruit and a lot more and take to your room or enjoy elsewhere. I don't think you will be disappointed with the hotel.

You can go to the Florida Council Web Site, www.fcbs.org and click on the link for the hotel; it will take you directly to our reservation page that the hotel set up for the conference. You can also call the hotel at 888-258-7501 and say you are with the bromeliad society.

The committee chairmen have been busy working on making this the best conference ever. Here is a tour of some of the different activities.

Georgia Orser is accepting commercial grower's applications and individual member's applications to sell. The sales rules are on the Florida Council Website or you can contact her at georgiaorser@gmail.com or by phone (352) 250-3571, if you

would like more information.

Sara and Pepe Donayre are working on the Meet and Greet Reception, scheduled for Wednesday night at 8:00 pm. Come join in the fun and talk with some old and new friends about bromeliads. During this reception you will be introduced to a new crop of judges.

Lisa Robinette is busy getting both commercial growers and affiliates to put in displays. These displays will be ribbon judged. When asked by your societies, please volunteer to help put in a display to represent your society. For more information please contact Lisa at lisabromeliads@att.net or call her at (321) 303-7615. See page 32 for more details on displays.

Tour details are on page 29 and some speaker information on page 33.

A new addition to this year's conference will be an Art Show and Sale. This is under the direction of Mary McBride; more information is on page 35.

I could go on and on but I think you get the idea that there will be plenty of things to do at this conference. Please check back on the web sites regularly for new information.

I hope to see everyone here in Orlando for Orlandiana 2012.



WBC Tours

by Betsy McCrory

Our next stop is tours. Boy do we have some great tours. Marty Folk, our tours chairman has scheduled 4 different tours. First will be our home tours scheduled for Wednesday afternoon (subject to change) where you will be touring some of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida's members yards. We do have some outstanding gardens done up by the members. This tour is part of your registration fee.

The second tour will be Saturday morning with a trip to the beautiful Harry P Leu Botanical Gardens located in Orlando. If you have never been to this garden do not miss this tour. There will be a small charge for this tour.

The third tour will be Saturday afternoon to a natural habitat area in Central Florida. Just a short ride to the Osceola Environment Center you will be able to go on the boardwalk and see the real Florida including seeing wild alligators. There is an air-conditioned interpretive center with exhibits. The boardwalk goes through the Reedy Creek Swamp. There will be a small charge for this tour.

Both of the tours on Saturday are handicap accessible and have restrooms.

The Fourth tour will be Monday, October 1. You will be going to some of the local commercial bromeliad growers. Some of these nurseries are not open to the public so this will be a great opportunity to see how a big bromeliad nursery operates. There will be 2 tours and you will have to decide which one you would like to go on. One tour will be going to Color Zone Tropicals operated by Grant Groves and Russell's Bromeliads operated by Mike & Debbie Salvi. The second tour will be going to Deroose Bromeliads operated by Paul Deroose and McCrory's Sunny Hill Nursery operated by Evan

McCrary and Georgia Orser under the direction of Buddy and Dolores McCrary.

I know this will be a difficult choice. There will be a small charge for these tours. Pricing will be available soon.

Be sure to check back with the web sites for updates and more information on the tours.



Your Participation is Welcome!

To donate money for Conference awards, contact Steven Wagner, 3286 Hidalgo Drive, Orlando, FL 32812. Donations can be made out to WBC 2012.

Donations for the gift baskets to be used for auctions are welcome. Contributions of items or of funds to purchase items for the baskets are most welcome. Contact Betsy McCrary, WBC Chairman, at 3615 Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL 34744-9416.

Advertise Your Society or Your Business in the WBC 2012 Program

The WBC 2012 Program Advertisement Form is available for download at <http://fcbs.org>.

Ads are available in black and white or in color. All rates are in U.S. dollars

Black and White

Full page \$125.00

Half page \$75.00

Quarter page \$50.00

Color

Inside front cover, full page \$250.00

Inside back cover, full page \$250

Back cover, full page \$250.00

Inside middle, full page \$200 (Limited)

Inside middle, half page \$150.00 (Limited)

Inside middle, quarter page \$100 (Limited)

Deadline for receipt of ad copy and payment is August 1, 2012.

For more information, contact Linda Sheetz at lsheetz@tampabay.rr.com or go on line to the Council site.



Affiliate and Commercial Displays

by Lisa Robinette

WBC Exhibits and Displays Chairman

We would like to invite all BSI affiliated societies to participate in a way to enhance your showing ability by putting in an affiliate display.

The theme of the WBC 2012 is Kaleidoscope of Bromeliads. The displays will be judged and there will be ribbons awarded with strong emphasis on growing bromeliads.

Your display may be a tabletop to a floor display. If you choose a floor display, you will be responsible to protect the hotel carpet and for the necessary supplies to do that. Your exhibit can be as large as a 10x10 area. If you need more space, please let me know and I will see what I can do.

Your display needs to be set up on Wednesday, September 26 between 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm. You cannot sell from your display until the end of the show.

Please let me know as soon as you can if you can participate in doing a display and the size. Email: lisabromeliads@att.net



BSI Judges School at the 2012 World Conference

by Betty Ann Prevatt

School I for World Conference Judges School series will be held on Tuesday, September 25, in Orlando, Florida, at the site of the World Bromeliad Conference. There are six schools in the series and are held at each conference. The last series finished in New Orleans, therefore it starts over with School I in Orlando.

If you are interested in attending, contact me, the BSI Judges Certification Committee Chairman, before September 1. Email is bprevattpcc@aol.com; telephone 239-334-0242; address 2902 Second Street, Fort Myers, Florida 33916, USA.

The school is all day and the cost is \$25.00.



WBC Speakers

by Betsy McCroy

There are a number of speakers scheduled for the conference. What follows is only a partial list.

Andy Siekkinen and Robert Kopfstein

This pair of speakers come to us from San Diego, California, and will be speaking on “In Search of Mexican Silver: *Hechtia argentea*.” Their talk is scheduled for Friday, September 28 at 11:00 am.

Continued

Dr Gregory K. Brown

Dr. Brown will be speaking about the “Future of the BSI” at the Welcome to Orlandiana 2012, scheduled for Wednesday, September 26 at 10:00 am.

Francisco Oliva

He will be speaking about the “Tepuis of Venezuela.” His talk is scheduled for Friday, September 28 at 3:00 pm.

Barry Landau-Comes

He is from Los Angeles, California. He will be speaking on “Internet Social Media: The Future of Bromeliads and The Bromeliad Society.” His talk is scheduled for Friday, September 28 at 4:00 pm.

Peter Bak

Peter comes from Holland. His presentation will be Saturday, September 29 at 10:00 am.

Harry Luther

Harry now hails from Singapore. He will be speaking about the “Gardens by the Bay” on Saturday, September 29 at 11:00 am.

More information about all of the speakers will be on the web sites in the next couple of weeks.



Orlandiana 2012 Bromeliad Art Show

This year's World Bromeliad Conference will feature an Art Exhibition and Sales with cash awards.

Work may be in any media and size. Organizers are looking for exceptional depictions of bromeliads, either real or fantasy. Cash awards will be presented for works selected by a visiting plant specialist in the field of bromeliads and a local artist.

The awards are;
Best of Show - \$300
1st Place - \$200
2nd Place 1 \$150
3rd Place - \$100
Honorable Mention - \$50

The art will be on display in the same room as the plant exhibition. The room will be locked at night. Tables will be supplied but not easels. If you have easels, please plan on bringing them for your work.

Time line:

Deadline to enter is August 1, 2012

Wednesday, September 26: Delivery of work and set up in designated room

Thursday- Saturday: Exhibition Open, artists will be needed to sell art

Sunday, September 30: Take down artwork. Artists in the area should be there to remove their art

Application:

Each artist should submit a package of material including the following. All items can be contained on the same CD or emailed to marymcbridearts@gmail.com.

Entry Form: A copy of the entry form may be found at

<http://marymcbridearts.wordpress.com/2012/05/10/orlandiana-2012-bromeliad-art-show/>

Images:

Up to 6 images of work on a CD. JPEG images should be *at least 72 DPI* and at least 6” wide. Images that are poorly depicted (blurry, dark, reflected glare) will not be considered. Images should be labeled NAME_TITLE_SIZE. JPG (as in Mary McBride_A Quilted Word_24x36.JPG)

Listing:

A list of these images in the same order as on the CD, with thumbnail or small images, stating the title, size, media, and price of each work. Label document NAME LIST.DOC (This helps identify works mislabeled on CDs and in the exhibition.)

Fee: Entry fee is \$20

Commission: 20%

Commitment Dates: September 26 – 30

Biography/Artist’s Statement:

One paragraph each bio and art statement

Original works:

All artwork must be original. No teacher assisted or class generated art will be accepted. No reproductions or giclees. Work exhibited and marked for sale may be purchased and removed from the exhibit. All other works are to remain in the exhibit until pick-up date. We reserve the right to reject any work that we deem unsuitable for hanging or displaying in the exhibit.

Insurance and Security:

There is no insurance coverage on items left in the exhibition

room. The room will be securely locked by attending committee members during non-viewing hours. Artists are asked to volunteer to spend some time at the art display to assist in sales. Only artists who are working the sales area are encouraged to bring smaller works of art including cards, wearables and prints to be purchased also with the 20% commission going to the hosting organization.

All entries including CD, statement, and check made payable to Mary McBride should be mailed to: Mary McBride, 413 Albany Avenue, DeLand, FL 32724

Entries may also be emailed to marymcbridearts@gmail.com using the labeling system described. Mail the check separately to above address. Entry will not be juried in until money arrives.

Information for this article came from:

<http://marymcbridearts.wordpress.com/2012/05/10/orlandiana-2012-bromeliad-art-show/>



Orlandiana 2012 World Bromeliad Conference Chairmen

Chairman Betsy McCrory
betsymccrory@aol.com

Assistant Chairman Ron Schoenau
ron@ufl.edu

Finance Chair Carolyn Schoenau
bsi@gator.net

BSI Liaison Bonnie Boutwell vicepresident@bsi.org

BSI Treasurer Ed Doherty treasurer@bsi.org

Registrations Dan Kinnard membership@bsi.org

Awards Steve Wagner stellalunagardens@yahoo.com

Auctioneers Charlie Birdsong cbirdso@aol.com

Tom Wolfe bromeliadsociety@juno.com

Banquet Bud Martin martin5693@bellsouth.net

Cash Registers Set Up

Rick Rector rector@cfl.rr.com

Classification Grant Groves grantgroves@aol.com

Karl Green bromdad@att.net

Classification (Plant Verification): TBA

Clerks Vicky Chirnside vickychir@aol.com

Conference Program Advertising

Linda Sheetz lsheetz@tampabay.rr.com

Entries, Records, Computer Program for Show

Alan Herndon alanherndon@aol.com

Exhibits and Displays/Affiliates

Martha Goode affiliates@bsi.org

Exhibits and Displays/Commercials Chair

Lisa Robinette lisabromeliads@att.net

Graphics and Publications

Sharolyn Rymal sharonrymal@aol.com or
cell 407-810-0896

Hospitality TBA**Meet and Greet Reception**

Sara and Jose Donayre sarasdonayre@bellsouth.net
jcadonayre@bellsouth.net

Judged Show Larry Giroux

DrLarry@comcast.net

Judged Show Co-Chair

Betty Ann Prevatt bprevattpcc@aol.com

Judge's Chair Betty Ann Prevatt bprevattpcc@aol.com

Judge's School Betty Ann Prevatt bprevattpcc@aol.com

Photographer Carol Wolfe

cwolfe@trenam.com

Placement, Staging and Dismantling

Jose Donayre jcadonayre@bellsouth.net

Plant Sales Georgia Orser

Georgia@lexisparents.com

Poster Session Martha Goode (unconfirmed)**Publicity** Sara Donayre

sarasdonayre@bellsouth.net

Raffle and Silent Auction

betsymccrory@aol.com

Betsy McCrory

Rare Plant and Silent Auction

Charlie Birdsong

cbirdso@aol.com

Security Jerry O'Keefe

euph2201@cfl.rr.com

Rick Ryals

rickryals@bellsouth.net

Seminar Dean Fairchild

Dean_F@earthlink.net

Tours Marty Folk

folkfam@embarqmail.com



**Next Florida Council Meeting
hosted by
Bromeliad Society of South Florida
July 14, 2012**

**See your Council representative
for more details**



This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Contact the editor for permission to reprint articles from this publication. Send all requests to karen@fcbs.org. Copyright 2012.

FCBS Affiliated Societies and Representatives

(continued from inside front cover)

Gainesville

Carolyn Schoenau (352) 372-6589 bsi@gator.net

Ron Schoenau (352) 372-6589 ron@ufl.edu

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

David Johnson (941) 351-1155 davidjohnson929@comcast.net

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

Sudi Hipsley (352) 728-5002 sudii@embarqmail.com

Kay Klugh (407-833-9494) Klughka@yahoo.com

Officers

Chairman

David Johnson
B.S of Sarasota

Vice Chairman

Ashley Graham
Florida West Coast B.S.

Secretary

Carolyn Schoenau
Gainesville B.S.

Treasurer

Sudi Hipsley
Seminole Brom./Tropical
Plant Society

Weevil Research

Howard Frank jhfrank@ufl.edu Ron Cave rdcave@ufl.edu

Teresa M. Cooper tmcooper@ufl.edu

Orlandiana 2012 Chairman

Betsy McCrory (407) 348-2139 betsymccrory@aol.com

FCBS website: <http://fcbs.org>

Webmaster: Michael Andreas

webmaster@fcbs.org (321) 453-0366

Newsletter Editor

Karen Andreas, karen@fcbs.org, (321) 453-0366

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
6616 Tusawilla Drive
Leesburg, FL 34748-9190

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