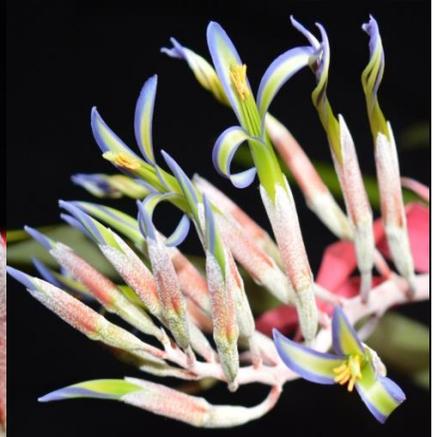




# Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies



*Billbergia macrocalyx*

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**Vice Chairman: Vicki Chirnside**  
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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Contact [karen@fcbs.org](mailto:karen@fcbs.org) for permission to reprint articles from this publication.

Please submit articles in word document format to editor at [bromstudio@hotmail.com](mailto:bromstudio@hotmail.com)

On the cover: *Billbergia macrocalyx* - Photo by Carol Wolfe

Tom Wolfe: The leaves are a plain grass green, one inch wide and the longest are 18" to 20" long with 7 to 8 leaves per plant. The scape bracts are a hot pink, the flower petals are chartreuse green with very defined, bold blue margins. There are 15 to 17 flowers per inflorescence but only one or two open at a time and it takes a long time to open. The entire inflorescence stays in good shape two to three weeks.



*Tillandsia cacticola* 'Silver Clone'

## CATCHING UP, STAYING EVEN

Carol Wolfe, Editor

This beautiful *Tillandsia cacticola* 'Silver Clone' with a soft lavender bloom was recently given to me by Linda Cathcart. Linda and I not only have bromeliads in common but we are North Carolina natives, having grown up near the Charlotte area. As I photographed the *Tillandsia*, I was thinking that pictures are not only a preservation of a time when the bromeliad is in bloom but it is also a timeless reminder of the friendships we share.

Tom and I have had many fun times while weeding, repotting or looking at bromeliads in the greenhouses when we pulled a label and we see HH on the label and know that the plant came from Herb Hill in Lithia or RR TX from Rick & Carole Richtmeyer in Texas,

or JR ILL which reminds us of the good times we had when we stopped at Jack and Ardity Reilly's home in Illipolis, IL, after the Chicago World Conference. When we see the tag JA TX, we recall driving to Corpus Christi after the Houston World Conference and spending the morning in John's greenhouses and having lunch, great homemade soup, with John Anderson and Don Beadle. The afternoon was spent at Don's home where we were wide-eyed at his collection of artwork, bromeliads and his double decker lanai full of hanging pottery filled with *Billbergias*! But the list goes on with plants from Wally Berg, Harry Luther, Don Beadle, Fred Ross, Dean Fairchild, Nat DeLeon, Connie Johnson, Bill & Maureen Frazel, Michael O'Leary, Carol Johnson, Odean Head, Carl Green, George Aldrich, Ron Schoneau, Terri Bert, Boggy Creek, *Tropiflora* and many other "bromeliad pioneers" that shared their love of bromeliads with us. Sometimes it is the little things in life that bring us so much pleasure, the simple initials on a plant label that sparks the memory of people, and most likely a good story from Tom, recalling many pleasurable details that had been long forgotten. The tags are not just reminders of the plant but of the people, our relationship with them, and our bromeliad family!

The annual FCBS Extravaganza was in Miami, "Bromeliads in the Magic City," was a great event. The Bromeliad Society of South Florida did a fantastic job! Congratulations to BSSF!! It was a lot of fun to meet and greet, buy bromeliads, win baskets, participate in the auctions and the venue was super! Additional article and pictures are in this Newsletter. There will not be an Extravaganza next year due to the World Bromeliad Conference being held in Houston, Texas; however, BGTB is the host club for the 2017 Extravaganza.

I am indebted for all the help I received for this issue of the Newsletter: As always to Karen Andreas for her excellent articles and Michael Andreas' pictures, Dr. Teresa Cooper for her report and pictures on the Weevil Research, Pepe Donayre for providing information about Sara, Betsy McCrory for the article on Bill and Audrey McCrory with pictures from Calendar Thurrott and Marty Folk, Tom Wolfe for his articles and help, Jay Thurrott for pictures, and Rick Ryals for his information from the Committee. It takes a lot of hard working people to put a Newsletter together!

Wishing for you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving. We will be giving thanks for our new grandson, only 10 days old, that arrived several weeks early but he and mommy are doing fine! May you have wonderful holidays ahead and Santa bring you all the bromeliads you wish for!!!

## 2015 Extravaganza, “BROMELIADS IN THE MAGIC CITY”

Hosted by Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Sponsored by Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

By Carol Wolfe

The Bromeliad Society of South Florida presented a great Extravaganza which was very successful and lots of fun! Congratulations to Sandy Roth, President and her Co-Chairpersons, Barbara Partagas and Maureen Adelman and all the Volunteers and Donors from the BSSF Society for a great job!



Betty Ann Prevatt, Charlie Birdsong, Rick Ryalls, Calendra Thurrott at the “Meet & Greet” on opening night.

Friday night started with a 50/50 raffle, silent auctions and a meet and greet in the hotel lobby with lots of hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. There was standing room only as everyone visited.

Saturday was a great day to leisurely browse through the sales area purchasing the most sought after bromeliads, participate in the raffle of beautiful baskets, and attend seminars. Speakers were Craig Morrell, the horticulturist at Pincrest Gardens, who gave a great talk and power point program about the history of the Gardens and Nat DeLeon infatuation with bromeliads; followed by Jose Manzanares, a major grower in Ecuador, who spoke about a collecting trip in Ecuador where many new species were discovered.

A banquet with an open bar was held at 7:00 PM with a silent auction available in the room for bidders and the rare plant auction started after dinner. Thanks to the tireless work of Carolyn Schoenau, the bromeliads were lined up and attendees were provided a printed copy of the number of the auction plant, the name and donor of the bromeliads. Thank you Carolyn! Charlie Birdsong from Baton Rouge volunteered as the auctioneer. Auction proceeds were \$5,159.41 which will help the FCBS continue in contributing to many ongoing worthwhile projects.

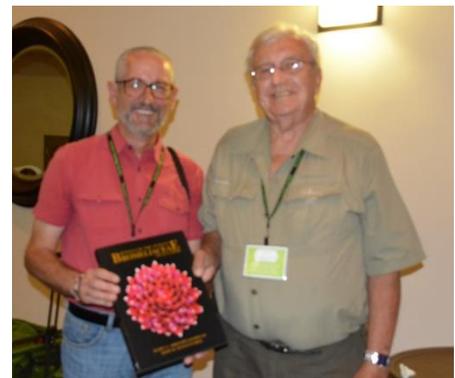
Sunday was another great day going on the garden tours which started at Block’s Botanical Gardens, Pincrest Gardens and Sunshine Bromeliads. We were greeted at the gate with bottles of cold water and insulated keepsake bags to carry home.



Blocks Botanical Garden

Block’s Botanical Gardens was a wonderful experience and Dr. Jeff Block guided us through the

greenhouses after the tour.



Jose Manzanares autographed his books for Tom Wolfe



Pinecrest Gardens

Photo Carol Wolfe

Then onto Pinecrest Gardens where Craig Morrell, Horticulturist, led us through the gardens while sharing the history of the gardens. His vast amount of knowledge about the gardens and the work that has been done during the De Leon's ownership and since was remarkable. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places as the Parrot Jungle Historic District in 2011. The 20-acre park now includes a variety of sites such as the butterfly exhibit, Swan Lake, petting zoo, children's playground, a popular splash-n-play area as well as the botanical gardens.

There was never a dull moment along the pathways but the temperature soared and we were hot and tired. However, Tom drove our carload of hungry, sweaty people to the best bar-be-que restaurant, Shorty, where we ate, cooled off, and revived for the trip home. We didn't make it to Sunshine Bromeliads but others told us that it was a great experience and they were fed a delicious buffet lunch!

## Florida Council Rare Plant Auction

by Rick Ryals

We have many folks to be thankful to, for a very successful, Florida Council Rare Plant Auction held at our last Bromeliad Extravaganza in Miami, September 26, 2015.

### Every Society of the Council Participated:

- Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay
- Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
- Bromeliad Society of South Florida
- Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
- Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society
- Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society
- Gainesville Bromeliad Society
- Sarasota Bromeliad Society
- Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

On behalf of a very grateful auction committee we would like to thank:

### Major Donors:

**Bromeliad Society of South Florida;  
Bullis Bromeliads; and Bromeliad Society International**

### Donors:

Dr. Larry Giroux  
Bob Meier



BSSF President Sandy Roth welcomes everyone to the banquet & Auction.

Photo: Carol Wolfe

Ron & Carolyn Schonenau  
 Peggy Dorsey Mixon  
 Steve Correale  
 Ben & Kay Klugh  
 Lisa Robinette  
 Dr. Pepe & Sara Donayre  
 Jay & Calandra Thurrott  
 Franne Matwijczyk  
 Susan Sousa  
 Jon Hanson Bromeliad Paradise  
 Bob Lura

Alan Herndon  
 Marty Folk  
 Barbara Whittier  
 Greg Spak  
 John Boardman  
 Ginny Fortenese  
 Tom & Carol Wolfe  
 Marty Baxley  
 Bruce Holst  
 Marie Selby Botanical Gardens  
 Betsy McCrory  
 Michael & Donna Kiehl  
 Randy's Bromeliads  
 Dennis & Linda Cathcart  
 Ray Lemieux  
 Tropiflora  
 Karl & Kristie Green  
 Sunshine Bromeliads  
 Dr. Terrie Bert  
 Sr. Jose M. Manzanares  
 Leonard Dolatowski  
 Dale Kammerlohr



Registration Desk & Information



Attendees touring Pinecrest Gardens led by Craig Morrell, Horticulturist



Ron Schoneau, Bruce Holst, Lisa Robinette enjoying the sales area.



Photos Carol Wolfe



## Catopsis

By Tom Wolfe

Catopsis is a rather obscure genus in cultivation especially since there are only three species of Catopsis native to Florida: *Catopsis berteroniana*, *Catopsis floribunda* and *Catopsis nutans*. I collected all three in the Big Cypress swamp in the late 60's and early 70's. None of them were in abundance but often during a hard day's hike you might come across one or two of them usually high in the canopy except for nutans which was usually found in dense brush close to the swamp water.

It has been observed that *Catopsis berteroniana* is a carnivorous plant. Carnivorous means flesh-eating or in this case insect-eating. The inside surface of the leaves are covered with a waxy substance which provides a slippery slope for some insects. The insects are trapped in the cup and die creating an organic soup for the plant to feed on. The plant doesn't actually eat the insects; therefore, it's rather a stretch to call them carnivorous.

*Catopsis berteroniana* has a powdery scurfing on the outer side of the leaves which helps protect them from the sun. All the ones I observed in habitat have been growing high on the trunks of bald cypress. Since this tree is deciduous they receive full sun in the winter months.



*Catopsis berteroniana* Photo Carol Wolfe



*Catopsis berteroniana* Photo Carol Wolfe

*Catopsis berteroniana* is stingy about pupping, producing one or two pups after blooming. Growing from seed seems difficult in cultivation. It's hard to get them past the two to three inch size.

Because of over collecting of the plants during the last 30 years, all of the three Florida native *Catopsis* species have become rare.

I grow this plant exclusively as epiphyte on cedar driftwood. They need a well-drained root system and plenty of sunlight.

# Gorgeous Guzmania Species

By Karen Andreas

Named for naturalist Anastasio Guzman, the genus *Guzmania* was first described in 1802. Its range extends from Florida, the West Indies, and Central America to Brazil but is mainly found in Columbia, Ecuador, Costa Rica and Panama.

When Victoria Padilla wrote about *Guzmania* species in 1973, she lamented that, “despite their beauty and desirability, comparatively few are to be found in cultivation.” More than forty years later, Ulrich Baensch made the same observation. While we are all familiar with the eye-catching good looks of the ubiquitous Home Depot and Lowes’ *Guzmania* hybrids, it is worth taking a look at the species, which are, of course, the sources for these man-made beauties.

*Guzmania* is found in the damp and shady habitat of rainforests where it generally grows epiphytically (as an air plant) in trees and bushes. Larger species mostly grow as terrestrials (in the ground) on the rainforest and jungle floors. *Guzmanias* have smooth leaves – no spines – and the leaves grow upright to form a water tank. Baensch noted, “Fine reddish brown longitudinal stripes are particularly obvious at the bases of the leaves and typical for many species of this genus.” (This is often a defining characteristic that distinguishes *Guzmania* from *Vriesea* when not in bloom.)

The bracts are often brightly colored with shades ranging from yellow to orange to flaming red with flowers that are generally white or yellow. The inflorescence is especially long lived, making *Guzmania* and its cultivars so popular for the interiorscape.

Do not over-pot these bromeliads. Use a shallow pot just a bit larger than the existing root ball. The potting mix should be well draining but still retain some moisture. These bromeliads especially do not want wet feet in the winter because this can lead to rot. During winter, water early in the day. Not only can watering late in the day lead to wet feet and rot, wet leaves can result in “cold burn” during low temperatures.

During our hot summer months, do not water during the heat of the day as this also can burn the leaves; watering early to mid-morning is best. If your water is hard, alkaline or salty, consider flushing your *Guzmanias* with rainwater or bottled water. If you want to fertilize this bromeliad, use a low strength solution once a month during the warm growing seasons and not during the winter when the *Guzmania* rests. When grown indoors as a houseplant, mist two to three times a week. Keep water inside the cup formed by the leaves.

*Guzmanias* like light shade to semi-shade conditions. In my yard, they get morning sun filtered by oak trees. While *Guzmania* species do not tolerate cold well, the hybrids are a bit hardier. All the *Guzmanias* in my yard have been exposed to temperatures in the low forties and survived with some foliage damage. Still, it is best to protect *Guzmanias* from cold temperatures, cold wind and frost, which will damage the leaves and leave you with ragged foliage.

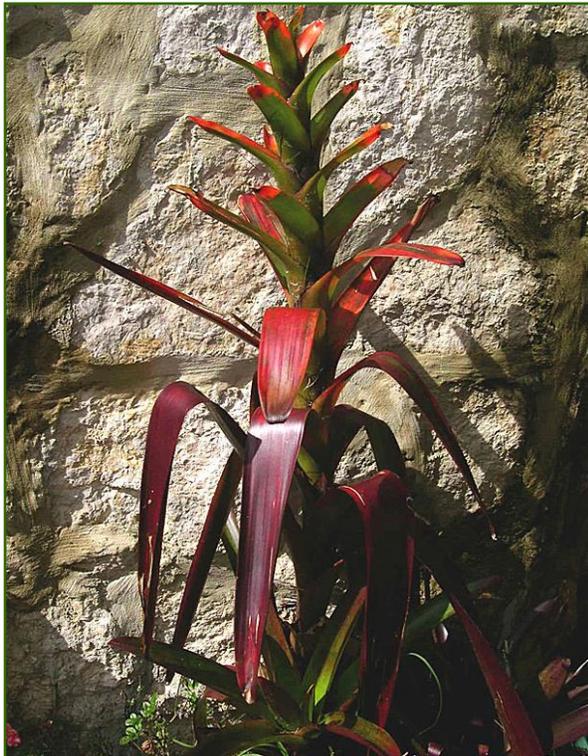
There are more than 200 species of *Guzmania*. Here is a sample of some of the glorious species in this genus.

*Guz. conifera* (right) grows both as a terrestrial and epiphyte in rainforest habitat in Ecuador and Peru. Its cone-like inflorescence stays in color for months.  
 Photo by Michael Andreas



*Guz. gloriosa* is found in Ecuador in dry sandy regions as well as in forests in Colombia and Peru. This large Guzmania grows 3-5 feet high. Its green leaves have dark red stripes at the base.

Ignaceo Moreno took this picture of a *gloriosa* in habitat, in a cloud forest in Bogota, Columbia.



*Guz. lingulata* is the base for many hybrids.  
 Photo by Bob Spivey



*Guz. lingulata* v. *minor* is the most commonly grown form. It's an excellent beginner Guzmania. *Guz. lingulata* v. *minor* is both epiphytic and saxicolous (grows on and between rocks) in forest habitat. There are five varieties of this species, all having the star shaped inflorescence. Pups generously. Habitat photo in Ecuador by Wally Berg.



*Guz. monostachia* “has the greatest geographical range of the genus,” wrote Victoria Padilla. It grows epiphytically in the Everglades and is found in the West Indies, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, Bolivia and Brazil.

Photos by Wally Berg.



*Guz. monostachia* var. *variegata* is Florida’s native *Guzmania*, with green and white leaves.

It is notoriously difficult to grow in collections. It is an endangered bromeliad, found in rockland hammock, slough and strand swamp.

Photo by Michael Andreas

*Guz. remyi*, found in Ecuador is easy to grow in a warm shady spot or in filtered sun. It is a faithful bloomer and pups well.

Photo by Michael Andreas





*Guz. sanguinea* (left) and *Guz. sanguinea* v. *brevipedicellata* (below, right) have brilliantly colored foliage and they flower in their centers. They grow epiphytically in Costa Rica, Columbia, Trinidad, Tobago and Ecuador. Both are stingy with pups, generally yielding only one for *sanguinea* and two for v. *brevipedicellata*.

Photos left by Dorothy Berg; below,

Michael Andreas



*Guz. sprucei* grows epiphytically although sometimes is saxicolous in the forests of Panama and Columbia.

Photo by Michael Andreas

*Guzmania squarrosa* comes in several different colors. The one pictured here is the pink form, taken in Lita, Ecuador, photo by Bob Spivey. There also is a yellow form and a red form.





Found in Columbia and Peru, *Guzmania testudinis* is a stand out for its intense orange and yellow colors. Photos by Julian Londono Jaramillo.

The drama is in the bracts of *Guzmania wittmackii*.  
Photo by Frank Sherman



For more pictures of *Guzmania* species, go to the Photo Index of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies website, [fcbs.org](http://fcbs.org), the source for photographs in this article.

# Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads

By Tom Wolfe and Eileen Kahl

(Published in prior years but updated, reformatted and pictures added for Newsletter by Karen Andreas)

Many variables factor into cold hardiness, including the condition and location of the plants along with the climatic conditions of a particular cold event.

Wind velocity can dissipate radiational heat from the ground; no wind (calm conditions) can allow frost under 38°F. Some plants will tolerate temperatures below freezing for a short period but be severely injured by frost.

Additional factors in cold tolerance include the duration of the cold; location of plants (in ground, under trees, in pots, in hanging baskets, or in tree branches which make these elevated bromeliads more vulnerable when surrounded by cold air); and cold following unseasonable warmth.

Prior to a hard freeze, we recommend that you water your bromeliads. The water in the cups may insulate the caudex so that the caudex will survive and the plant can pup. While the mother plants may die, pups will survive. Be sure to give the foliage enough time to dry off so ice won't form on the leaves

Be aware of the climate conditions in your own yard. Conditions can vary widely from area to area, depending on such factors as wind, cloud cover, canopy or the proximity of water. Your yard could be in a cold pocket or a warm pocket. You are your own best weatherman; you should rely as much on your own experience as you do on any list. Don't forget that your local bromeliad society is also a tremendous resource for information on cold tolerant bromeliads for your area.

The following list is compiled as a guide for many bromeliad species and some hybrids.

16<sup>0</sup>-21<sup>0</sup> F

## Aechmea

apocalyptica	calyculata	cylindrata	kertesziae	recurvata (all its varieties)
aquilega	caudata	distichantha (all varieties)	ornata var.	triangularis
blumenavii	comate	gamosepala	nationalis	winkleri
				wittmackiana



Ae. caudata. Photo by Peter Franklin



Ae. cylindrata. Photo by Michael Andreas



Ae. ornata v. nationalis. Photo by Richard Harper

## Billbergia

distachia nutans (and its hybrids) sanderiana 'Theodore L. Mead'  
horrida pyramidalis (inc. 'Striata', saundersii  
'Kyoto')

## Bromelia

flemingii  
serra

## Deuterocohnia

meziana  
schreiteri

## Dyckia

All species *except*  
marnier-lapostollei

## Fascicularia

bicolor ssp. canaliculata  
(formerly pitcairnifolia)



Billbergia sanderiana.  
Photo by Don Beadle.



Dyckia fosteriana. Photo by  
C. Gastaldi.



Fascicularia bicolor ssp.  
canaliculata. Photo by Len  
Harrison.

## Nidularium

fulgens  
procerum  
rutilans (formerly regeloides)

## Puya

Most species

## Quesnelia

arvensis  
quesneliana  
testudo

## Tillandsia

baileyi  
ionantha  
recurvata  
usneoides

atra

ensiformis

## Vriesea

incurvata

phillipo-coburgii

schwackeana

barilletii

flammea

lubbersii

platynema

simplex

carinata

friburgensis (all varieties)

rodigasiana

vagans

corcovadensis

gigantea

'Mariae'

scalaris



xNeophytum 'Ralph Davis', photo by Moyna Prince. Center: Nid. fulgens, Michael Andreas. Vr. lubbersii,  
Oscar Ribiero/Bromeliario Imperialis.

**22<sup>0</sup>-27<sup>0</sup> F**

**Aechmea**

‘Burgundy’ nudicaulis  
eurycorymbus ramosa var. festiva  
‘Foster’s Favorite’ rubens

**Billbergia**

amoena var. stolonifera  
‘Catherine Wilson’  
‘Muriel Waterman’  
(severely damaged by frost)

**Vriesea**

bituminosa  
guttata

**Canistrum**

aurantiacum

**Edmundoa**

lindenii

**Hechtia**

argentea  
glomerata  
montana

**xNeomea**

‘Strawberry’

**Neoregelia**

‘Catherine Wilson’  
compacta  
cruenta

**Vriesea**

erythroductylon



Ae. rubens. Photo by Michael Andreas



Bill. amoena v. stolonifera. Photo by Don Beadle.



Canistrum aurantiacum. Photo by Ken Marks.

**28<sup>0</sup>-32<sup>0</sup> F**

**Acanthostachys**

Strobilacea

**Aechmea**

‘Bert’	dactylina	fulgens	mulfordii	pineliana (also
blanchetiana	fasciata	lamarchei	nudicaulis	var. minuta)
(frost sensitive)	fendleri	lingulata	orlandiana	pubscens
bromeliifolia	filicaulis	lueddemanniana	pectinata	triticina
(frost sensitive)	fosteriana	mariae-reginae	pimenti-	weilbachii
chlorophylla	(frost sensitive)	miniata	velosoi	

**Alcantarea**  
imperialis

**Androlepis**  
skinneri

amoena  
(all varieties)  
leptopoda

**Billbergia**

meyeri  
morelii  
rosea  
speciosa  
vittata  
zebrina

**Bromelia**  
balansae

**Canistropsis**  
burchellii  
(formerly *Nidularium*)

**Deuterocohnia**  
brevifolia  
brevispicata  
longipetala

**Guzmania**  
berteroniana  
lindenii  
lingulata

monostachia

**Hechtia**  
mexicana

**xNeophytum**  
‘Galactic Warrior’

ampullacea  
‘Avalon’  
burle-marxii  
carolinae  
all forms  
‘Dexter’s Pride’  
‘Fosperior’

**Neoregelia**

johannis  
johannis rubra  
kautskyi  
laevis  
macrosepala  
melanodonta

‘Morrisoniana’  
(Foster hybrid)  
pineliana  
‘Rien’s Pride’  
sarmentosa  
‘Sheba’



Bromelia balansae. Photo Dr. Richard H. Knee.  
Warrior’

Center: xNeophytum ‘Galactic  
Bob Teems.

Bill. zebrina,  
Don Beadle

**Nidularium**  
amazonicum  
ferdinando-coburgii  
innocentii  
procerum  
rutilans

**Pitcairnia**  
most species

**Portea**  
kermesina  
leptantha  
petropolitana  
(all varieties)  
silveirae

**Quesnelia**  
edmundoi  
humilis  
marmorata

## Tillandsia

bartramii      setacea  
fasciculata    simulate  
xfloridana     tricolor  
paucifolia    utriculata

## Vriesea

bituminosa      ‘Purple Cockatoo’  
fosteriana      ‘Rex’  
gigantea        ‘Rosa Morena’  
glutinosa       saundersii  
‘Lucille’  
‘Mon Petit’     ‘Seminole Chief’



*Nid. rutilans*, photo by Holger Sachs. Center: *Portea leptantha*, by Luiz Felipe Naves de Carvalho. *Quesnelia marmorata* by Michael Andreas.

## 32°-40° F

There are a multitude of bromeliad species and hybrids that will survive temperatures between 32°-40° F, though there are some that will be damaged or killed by temperatures in the 40s. In addition to the lists above, check with your society members to see what works best with the weather conditions in your part of Florida.

Photographs of many of the bromeliads listed can be found in the Photo Index of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies at [fcbs.org](http://fcbs.org).

Some information was gleaned from lists compiled in prior years by Karen Andreas, Dale H. Jenkins, Al Muzzell and Tom Wolfe.

## Weevil Research Imperiled

By Karen Andreas, Chairman

### Al Muzzell Weevil Fund Committee

This year, with a sweep of his pen, Florida Governor Rick Scott eliminated funding for, among other programs, Mexican Bromeliad Weevil eradication research. By now, Florida Council representatives have reported to their societies that the weevil project has relocated to Gainesville, along with Dr. Teresa Cooper.

Dr. Cooper is rebuilding the program and will continue to report her progress at Council meetings and through the Council newsletter.

While Dr. Cooper's salary is funded through June of 2016, there are no forthcoming funds from the state for this program, for its supplies, start-up or operation costs. The Council will be providing funding through the Al Muzzell Memorial Weevil Fund, which stands at approximately \$5000.

It's back to the future for the Council. When the efforts to fight the weevil first began (in the last century), the Council and its member societies provided the sole support for this program. We are back in that position once again.

Furthermore, the Council will not be in the position to fund Dr. Cooper's salary next summer, and so your help is needed. Do you know of any environmental, conservation, preservation, eco-tourism or county grants available in your area? Are there any large scale development projects that require mitigation for habitat destruction – these sometime provide funds for conservation or preservation in other parts of the area or state. Small or large, every little bit will help.

If Dr. Cooper's salary is lost, that will be the end of the weevil fight.

The Mexican Bromeliad Weevil threatens not only our native bromeliads but also our backyard bromeliads. Please send any funding ideas you may have to Weevil Committee members and any donations to Council Treasurer Sudi Hipsley. Thank you!

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies Al Muzzell Weevil Committee  
Karen Andreas, chairman: karen@digital.net  
Jay Thurrott: cajat@aol.com  
Tom Wolfe: bromeliad [society@juno.com](mailto:society@juno.com)

Donations to: Sudi Hipsley, FCBS Treasurer, 6616 Tusawilla Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748-9190



## MEXICAN BROMELIAD WEEVIL REPORT

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2015

Teresa M. Cooper

Entomology and Nematology Department, UF, Gainesville, FL



**Figure 1: David and Glenn staple screen to Cage 3 of the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary.**

I have relocated to the Entomology and Nematology Department at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. I have a small Mexican bromeliad weevil colony. I will work to increase the size of the weevil colony. From this colony, over the next couple of months, I will be able to send weevils to Katie Schulman in Naples, Florida, to complete her research on insecticidal control of the weevil. By early next year, the weevil colony should be large enough to continue research with biopesticides and repellants for controlling the weevil. Research to create a weevil-resistant *Tillandsia utriculata* is being assessed and future strategies are being worked out.

Efforts to conserve *Tillandsia utriculata* in the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary continue. The second cage has been completed and has been placed in the forest. The third cage is being built with the help of volunteers (see Figures 1 and 2) and is almost completed. Several bromeliads of all sizes, and many with an inflorescence, have been rescued, sprayed with insecticide, and placed in Cages 1 and 2. More plants are waiting to be sprayed and will be placed in Cage 3 once the cage is in the forest. A new Garden was created in the forest, for a total of six Gardens. A few weevils were collected on the pineapple tops that were placed in the field. Data collected from this first season in the Enchanted Forest are being

organized and analyzed, and used to write up methods and create spreadsheets that other land managers can use to conserve *T. utriculata* on their land. Meetings with land managers at T. Mabry Carlton Jr. Memorial Reserve and Lemon Bay Park are set to happen in November.

### Presentation:

Cooper TM. 22 September 2015. New tactics for saving Florida's native bromeliads. Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, Selection and Management Committee. Titusville, Florida.

Cooper TM. 25-26 September 2015. The Mexican bromeliad weevil. Extravaganza: Bromeliads in the Magic City. Miami, Florida. Poster presentation.



**Figure 2: Martha, Joanie, and Donna attach wooden strips to secure the screen to the cage**

## FCBS MEMBERS: WE NEED YOUR HELP

### Governor Scott vetoed funds for the Research/Quarantine Facility

**Teresa M. Cooper**

At the FCBS Quarterly Meeting on 11 July 2015, I mentioned that Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida had line vetoed the funding for the research/quarantine facility where we are doing research to manage the Mexican bromeliad-weevil. It is very likely that the facility will be forced to close and research on the Mexican bromeliad weevil, as well as many other invasive organisms, will come to a halt.

Members at the FCBS meeting expressed a desire to contact Rick Scott and express their disapproval of this action, because they understand the importance of the work we are doing to save Florida's bromeliads from the weevil. A pdf file listing the line vetoes made by Rick Scott can be found at:

<http://www.flgov.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Final-Veto-List.pdf>

The line pertaining to our facility is on page four, line 1502, under the title: Special Categories – Transfer to University of Florida/Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences for Invasive Exotics Quarantine Facility, total funding \$900,000.<sup>00</sup>.

The Web page for contacting Rick Scott is: <http://www.flgov.com/contact-gov-scott/email-the-governor/>

**His address and phone number are:**

**Office of Governor Rick Scott  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001  
(850) 488-7146**

**They don't write out Rick Scott's email address, but they have a link on the Web page where you can submit an email. Thank you to everyone for your support.**

**It is never too late to let your voice be heard!**

**If we don't protest now, they will not put money back in the budget next year. Perhaps there is someone in each club that could start a petition drive asking the Governor and Senate and House representatives to reinstate funding. An on-line petition would be good. Bus trips to Tallahassee? Do we have a volunteer that would like to head up this program? (Editor)**

## OSCAR

by Karen Andreas

New Year's Day brings to fcbs.org the premier of Oscar Ribeiro's latest chapters in his ongoing series about bromeliads, their Brazilian environment, and the perils to the environment, to both plants and people. This annual gift by Oscar to the Council and its web readers not only showcases magnificent ecosystems and the diversity of the plants that occupy those spaces, but also illustrate in uncompromising terms the impact of man on land as well as the beauty of the architecture created by man.

These next chapters will cover the neighborhood of Jacobina - up to 150 kms - where Oscar found bromeliad species he had never seen before in their habitats. He reports possible new species, pending confirmation! He also documented his visits to a sisal factory, an emerald mine and many beautiful places where civilization has not reached. Expect about 300 pictures to accompany this latest installment in Oscar's journey into the land of bromeliads, its past, its present and future.

On New Year's Day, go to fcbs.org and select What's New and enjoy the view.

In the meantime, on fcbs.org. catch up with the previous chapters by selecting Bromeliad Habitats, then Brazil.

Prepare to be amazed.

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### FCBS MEETING October 24, 2015 at the beautiful 40 acre ranch of Butch Force in Sorrento, Florida



**From left to right: Chairman Vicky Chirnside, University of Florida researcher Dr. Teresa Cooper, Florida Council webmaster Michael Andreas with Central Florida Bromeliad Society representative Karen Andreas.**

**In front of Karen is past Florida Council chairman and Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society representative Ashley Graham and Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society representative Susan Sousa**

**Photo by Jay Thurrott**

**Thanks to the Seminole Bromeliad Society for being the host club for this meeting. Next meeting will be Saturday, February 27, 2016 in Tampa, Florida.**

# Sara Stevens Donayre

## A TRIBUTE TO SARA DONAYRE



October 31, 1941  
August 7, 2015

She lived her life as an opportunity to help, support, guide, soothe the life of others. Her family, friends and whoever crossed her bright path.

Sara is survived by husband Jose; son Cesar; daughter Diana; brother Jeffrey and grandchild Mila.

Sara never met a stranger and was probably one of the friendliest people I have known. We saw Sara and Pepe at Bromeliad Shows, Extravaganzas, FCBS meetings, World Conferences and she always took the time to talk and visit. After seeing her at one

of the conferences, we received a package from Sara with a knitted blanket, little jacket and hat for our first grandchild. Although she didn't know our children, she invested her time in making a gift which they loved. She would have been excited that our sixth grandchild, born a few days ago, was born on her birthday!

Sara was a great hostess and opened her home to out-of-town people giving programs or judges for their annual shows. Tom had stayed several times, and I recall the first night I stayed. When we arrived in the afternoon prior to the meeting, she had dinner waiting for us. It was delicious and she gave me a copy of her special chicken recipe. After the Broward meeting when we returned home, Pepe opened his wine cooler and brought out a special wine for everyone. The next morning Sara wanted to make sure that everyone had a good night's sleep and that the guest room was comfortable and it was very comfortable! She cooked a delicious breakfast and we spent part of the morning looking at their painting and artwork indoors and the remainder of the morning outdoors looking at their bromeliad collection. She didn't want her guests to go lacking in anything.

Everyone acknowledges that Sara was a great volunteer and hard worker in their societies. Sara worked diligently for the FCBS as well as serving as Secretary for the Bromeliad Society International.

Charlene "Becky" Blackwood in her President's Message to the Bromeliad Society of Broward County on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Society writes: "Today's members, who have made such an impact in our Society are Bill and Maureen Frazel, the Hendrix family – Bud, Colleen, and Tim; Pepe and Sara Donayre, Ann Schandelmayer, Josefa Leon and past member attorney Larry Davis, who have worked in all aspects of our Society, providing us with their ageless knowledge of Bromeliads as well as their continuous support. Where would we be without all of these individuals who have contributed so much to our sustaining interest in Bromeliads."

September Broward Newsletter, "Scurf": "We hope you can make our General Meeting on September 21, 2015, for a brief celebration of the life of our honorary member Sara Donayre. Sara was also an active member for many years in the Bromeliad Society International and the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. We will miss her dearly. Our thoughts go out to her family."

Ann Schandelmayer and Maureen Frazel conducted a memorial at the BSBC September meeting and here are some thoughts about Sara's life made by Ann: "Rainbows are thought to be the most beautiful examples of atmospheric effects. We are told many believe there is nothing more beautiful than a rainbow and we know it takes sunshine and rain to make one. If life is to be rounded and many colored like the rainbow, both joy and sorrow will come to it.

Our association with Sara could be likened to the sighting of a rainbow. A bright person came into our lives, warm, fun-loving, kind and talented. She was one who enjoyed color and knew how to use it especially in her beautiful table settings when she entertained guests. Her beloved husband, family and friends were the sunshine in her life. When help, support or guidance were needed she was always there for them. The Bromeliad Society of Broward was also special to her. Our "rainbow" has dropped behind the clouds. However, she will appear frequently in the fond memories we have of her. Let us pray. Dear Lord, We thank you for the time Sara was with us, for the talent you gave her and for the manner in which she shared with others. May she rest in peace in your beautiful garden ....."

Three members from the South Florida Bromeliad Society joined us. Mike Michalski, one of our recent presenters and a dear friend of Sara's, brought a new bromeliad specially named "Bilbergia Sara Donayre." It was a wonderful tribute to our special member.

*On behalf of the FCBS we extend to Pepe and Sara's family our sympathy. We will miss Sara, her bright enthusiastic personality, her love of people, and the special things she did that brought joy into our lives.*  
Carol Wolfe

## A TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM (BILL) MCCRORY

JULY 19, 1924 TO MAY 22, 2015



Bill McCrory, age 90, went to be with his beloved wife, Audrey McCrory, on May 22, 2015. He was born in a cabin outside of Atlanta, Georgia on July 19, 1924. He served in World War II in the US Army as a telephone and radio specialist. He was in Normandy during the invasion. Bill was a carpenter by trade which helped him when it came time for him to start building greenhouses. He was co-owner of Boggy Creek Bromeliads which was started by his wife, Audrey.

Bill and Audrey were Life Members of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida. They started in the Society about 6 months after it was started back in 1972. They were invited to the meeting by close friends of theirs Ed & Dorothy McNulty. Bill's main job was building displays for the first couple of bromeliad shows that the society ever

had. Audrey was the main grower of the bromeliads but Bill helped by potting the plants and building benches and greenhouses to house them in. Bill really enjoyed mounting the bromeliads and he and Audrey did talks all over Florida and other states on how to mount bromeliads. They went to many bromeliad shows and sales plus they did art & craft shows all over the southeast selling and promoting their favorite plant, bromeliads.

Their legacy will continue through their son, Ward (Buddy) McCrory and his wife, Dolores, who owns McCrory's Sunny Hill Bromeliad Nursery in Eustis. They have approximately 30 acres under greenhouses, growing only bromeliads. Audrey helped them get started in bromeliads and Bill helped build the benches and the first greenhouses and the rest is history. Their children, Georgia and Evan, helped manage the nursery plus they help our society with sales at our shows.

Betsy McCrory, their daughter is still active in the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida and was just elected President for 2016. She is also the Show Chairman for the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida's annual show. As you can see Bill and Audrey shared their love for bromeliads with their children and we plan to continue their legacy through many more generations to come.



We first met Bill and Audrey McCrory of Boggy Creek Bromeliads in the Westshore mall where they were selling mounted bromeliads during the BGTB annual show in the middle 1970/80's when malls were happy to have vendors to attract shoppers to their malls. Later, we made our first trip to Boggy Creek on a sunny afternoon and our children enjoyed playing with their kittens while the McCrory's' toured us through their bromeliad greenhouses. As we were getting ready to leave, they invited us to have dinner before returning to Tampa. We didn't want to impose and said we could have dinner on the way home; but, they insisted we stay and have dinner with them, which we did and enjoyed our time with them. We will always remember their friendliness, generously and the hospitality they showed our family. Carol Wolfe

*On behalf of the FCBS, our prayers and thoughts are with the McCrory family as we know they miss Bill and have missed Audrey, but they can be proud of the family heritage left them. They were hard-working, caring people, a WWII Veteran, and they were the kind of people that made America a great country and they will always be a part of the history of bromeliads.*

## 2015 Bromeliad Sources - List of Bromeliad Sources in Florida

**Bello Tropicals** – Alex Bello  
3500 SW 100 Ave, Miami, Florida 33165  
*Bromeliads Aroids, Orchids, Ferns*  
**Call or email for appointment.**  
239-223-6155, [bellotropicals@yahoo.com](mailto:bellotropicals@yahoo.com)

**Bromeliads Galore** - Dave Johnston  
6399 90th Avenue North, Pinellas Park 33782  
*Approximately 1000 different species and hybrids in pretty much all genera across the board, including bi-generics.*

**Call or email for appointment.**  
Home: (727) 544-9187; cell: (727) 481-5962;  
[johnston28@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:johnston28@tampabay.rr.com) Hours are after 4:00 PM  
Monday through Friday; all day Saturday and Sunday.

**Color Zone Tropicals** - Grant Groves  
17936 W. Phil C. Peters Rd, Winter Garden 34787 (**The nursery did not move; only the address has changed.**)  
**7:00 AM–5:00 PM Monday-Friday**  
**After 3 PM please call ahead** (407) 616-7595;  
[grantgroves@gmail.com](mailto:grantgroves@gmail.com);  
<http://www.colorzonetropicals.com>

**Jungle Gems** - Marty Baxley  
4719 Huron Road, St., Petersburg 33708  
*Selections from all genera.*  
**Call or email for appointment.** (727) 504-8951;  
[susiebaxley@verizon.net](mailto:susiebaxley@verizon.net)

**Mike's Bromeliads** - Mike Michalski  
10565 SW 109 Street, Miami, FL  
**Call or email for appointment.**  
(305) 279-2416 [pgonza7782@aol.com](mailto:pgonza7782@aol.com)

**Michael's Bromeliads, Inc. -Michael and Donna Kiehl.**  
973 First Dirt Road, Venice, FL 34292  
*Visitors are always welcome. We have 10 acres of wooded property with naturally growing Bromeliads, and 14 shade structures housing our collection of over 3000 Bromeliad species and hybrids. We specialize in the new and unusual. Our current plant listing is available on our website.*  
**For tours please call ahead.** Cell: (727) 415-7276  
**Our new retail store, Donna's Secret Garden, is open to the public 9 AM - 5 PM Monday – Saturday.**  
[www.donnassecretgarden.com](http://www.donnassecretgarden.com)  
[info@michaelsbromeliads.com](mailto:info@michaelsbromeliads.com)  
[www.michaelsbromeliads.com](http://www.michaelsbromeliads.com)

**The Nature Collection** - Shirley and Richard Konefal,  
2319 Taylor Street, Hollywood 33020  
*A retail bromeliad nursery ranging from small collectibles to large landscaping specimens; also offering a collection of artistic driftwood mounts, hangings and sculptures; shipped across the USA.* **Call or email for appointment.** (954) 922-5582; [grillskonefal@aol.com](mailto:grillskonefal@aol.com)  
[www.thenaturecollection.com](http://www.thenaturecollection.com);  
[www.facebook.com/pages/The-Nature-Collection/123218014400179](https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Nature-Collection/123218014400179)

**Plants N Things by George**- George and Irene Aldrich  
746 NE 35th Street, Ocala 34479-2712  
*Specializing in bromeliads.* **Call or email for appointment** (352) 629-1913; [plantsnthings5@cox.net](mailto:plantsnthings5@cox.net)

**Powell's Nursery** - Robert Powell  
1002 Bayvista Drive, Tarpon Springs 34689; *Growing and selling mainly bromeliads*  
**Daily Hours: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM** **Call or email for appointment** (727) 938-0831  
[rpowell110@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:rpowell110@tampabay.rr.com)

**Russell's Bromeliads**  
*Specializing in quality Tillandsias*  
15100 Lost Lake Road, Clermont 34711  
(407) 656-5541; Fax: (407) 656-7640  
**Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**T & C Tropicals** - Tim and Colleen Hendrix  
21 Holly Lane, Plantation 33317  
*Our nursery is located in the heart of beautiful historic Plantation. We have hundreds of different varieties Neoregelia and Tillandsia.*  
**Call or email for appointment.**(954) 931-1711 or  
(954) 530-0076; [timbo-169@comcast.net](mailto:timbo-169@comcast.net)

**Tropiflora** - Dennis and Linda Cathcart  
3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota 34243  
*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.*  
**Mail orders world-wide; Visitors welcome.**  
**No appointment necessary.** (800) 613-7520 / (941) 351-2267; Fax (941) 351-6985; [sales@tropiflora.com](mailto:sales@tropiflora.com);  
[www.tropiflora.com](http://www.tropiflora.com) ; **Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM; Saturday, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### **December 5, & 6, 2015**

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Show & Society Sale  
Terry Park  
3410 Palm Beach Blvd.  
Ft. Myers, FL

### **February 4 – 14, 2016**

Florida State Fair  
Florida State Fairground  
Tampa, FL

### **February 27, 2015**

FCBS Meeting-BGTB Tampa

### **March 4-6, 2015**

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay  
Annual show & sale  
Tampa Garden Club  
2629 Bayshore Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33629

### **April 16-17, 2016**

Bromeliad Society of South Florida annual  
show and sale at Fairchild Tropical Botanical  
Garden.

### **June 13-19, 2016**

BSI World Bromeliad Conference at the  
beautiful Westin Galleria Houston Hotel.  
Check the website of [bsi.org](http://bsi.org) for updates.

