

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

June 2013



NEXT MEETING

Date: Tuesday, June 4, 2013
Location: Hope Presbyterian Church
1698 South Belcher Road
Clearwater, Florida 33764
Time: Doors open at 7 pm; meeting starts at 7:30

Program

Jay Thurrott will talk to us about *Why Your Plant Did Not Make It to the Head Table at the Plant Show*. He will tell us what features a well-grown bromeliad should display at a plant show and how show judges evaluate them. Even if you believe you will never enter a bromeliad in a show, his presentation will provide an idea of the potential your bromeliads can achieve in a proper growing environment. Jay is well suited for this task. He has been growing bromeliads for about 40 years, is an internationally accredited bromeliad judge, and has judged bromeliad shows throughout the USA and at world conferences.

Plant Sales

All members are welcome to sell bromeliads at the meeting.

Fertilizer and Plant Tags

At the June meeting Mary Sue Beeler will have for sale packages of Nutricote 360-day slow release fertilizer and 5-inch plastic plant tags. She bought large quantities of these not-commonly-available items at good prices and then repackaged them in smaller quantities so she could pass the savings on to us.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Bromeliad Auction

The May meeting was devoted entirely to our annual bromeliad auction, and Chip Hill started it off by dedicating it to member Tom Tarver who passed away last March. Once again, the auction was a supreme success. John Edwards did a sterling job organizing and running the event and was ably assisted by the many volunteers he recruited to help. And it appears this year's auction generated record revenues, no doubt boosted by the unusually high number of plants donated. Two of the non-plant items in the auction were a Tillandsia print by Steve Littlefield that he (Steve) donated and an out-of-print book by Victoria Padilla.

Auctioneers Barret Bassick, Dave Johnston, Alton Lee, Kathy Risley, and Susan Sousa diligently coaxed bids from the audience, and Runners John Edwards, Robert Lindstrom, Franne Matwijczyk, and Dan and Marilyn Michalec did their best 'Vanna White' imitations, showing and delivering auction plants to bidders. Cashiers Chip Hill and Kay and Mike Petryszak recorded bids and bid winners' names and collected payments. And a good number of people brought food for the refreshment table. A complete list of who donated items is not available (some made donations anonymously) but you are all most appreciated for your generosity. Here are the names of donors known to the editor (and if your name is not listed, please tell the editor so you can be properly thanked):

Mitch Armstrong Nursery
Barret Bassick
Marty Baxley
Mary Sue Beeler
Tom and Maria Berendzen
JC Campbell
Dennis and Linda Cathcart
Dick and Nancy Dailey
Bob Dalzell

John Edwards
Randy Garcia
Grant Groves
Chip Hill
Connie Hill
Bruce Holst (Selby Gardens)
Dave Johnston
Michael Kiehl
Alton Lee

Steve Littlefield
Judy and Gary Lund
Kathy Risley
Carol Schultz
Searle Brothers Nursery
Linda Sheetz
David Smith
Susan and Larry Sousa
Helga Tarver

Below are pictures of the auction.



Potential bidders examined auction plants. ↑ ↑ →→



← ← John Edwards kept an eye on the action.



Dick Dailey perused the silent auction plants. → →



Auctioneers (starting at upper left and going clockwise to the right) Alton Lee, Barret Bassick, Dave Johnston, Susan Sousa, and Kathy Risley used various techniques to obtain (coax, persuade, entice, inveigle, wheedle, cajole) maximum bids.





← ← Cashiers (left to right) Mike Petryszak, Chip Hill, and Kay Petryszak were busy recording bids and bidder names.

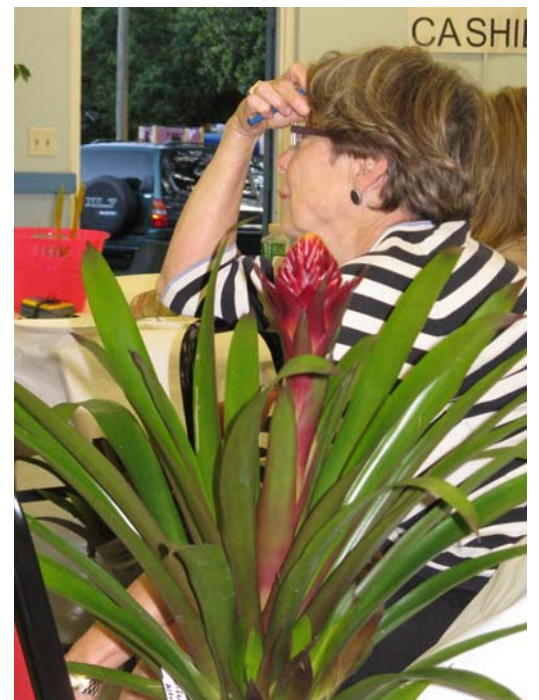


Marilyn and Dan Michalec worked as Runners, showing plants to bidders.



↑ Sue Myers admires one of the plants she acquired.

Mary Sue Beeler contemplates bidding, again. → →



UPCOMING EVENTS, 2013

August 10, Bromeliad Sale

University of South Florida Botanical Gardens, Tampa, FL (cas.usf.edu/garden)

August 17-18, Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale

The Garden Club of Sanford, Sanford, FL

September 21, Bromeliad Extravaganza® 2013

The Holiday Inn Harborside, Indian Rocks Beach, hosted by the FWCBS and sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (contact Judy Lund at glund@tampabay.rr.com)

September 27-29, Sarasota Bromeliad Society Annual Show and Sale

(details pending)

2013 FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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