

Show & Tell for August 1, 2006

Chip Hill: *Neoregelia* 'Fairy Godmother'
Neoregelia 'Helga's Joy'
Neoregelia Isabel 'Las Vegas'
Neoregelia 'Yellow Delicious'

Linda Sheetz: *Aechmea tillandsioides*
Neoregelia compacta
Neoregelia rosea

Helga Tarver: *Guzmania* 'Rana'
Tillandsia limbata
Tillandsia stricta
Tillandsia 'Pink Fountain'



Have a relaxing Labor Day holiday.

Upcoming Events

FCBS Bromeliad Extravaganza
September 30, 2006
Miccosukee Resort & Convention Center, Miami
<http://www.fcbs.org>

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Annual Sale
November 18 & 19, 2006
Terry Park, 3410 Palm Beach Blvd., Fort Myers, FL
For more information contact Larry Giroux; email:
DrLarry@comcast.net

Refreshments

Food for the refreshment table is being provided this month by: Adelle Blackman, Brian & Linda Covey, Bob Dalzell, Giselle Fischer, and Mike Gimeno.

Welcome!

We would like to welcome 2 new members to our society, Kathy Farley and Barbara Gaines. Looking forward to seeing you at the meetings.

About Bromeliad Biota

A few hundred species of animals and plants are known to science to depend to a greater or lesser extent on bromeliads as a place in which to live, or as food. These few hundred species probably are a small fraction of those that exist, because these animals and plants, together called the bromeliad *biota* (the word *biota* means all living organisms, regardless of whether they are animals, plants, fungi, bacteria, or viruses), are yet poorly studied by biologists and there is an enormous amount of research left to do. It would not be surprising if there are more species of these organisms than there are of bromeliads.

Some of the animal species among this biota, and by *animal* is meant invertebrate as well as vertebrate animals, depend totally upon bromeliads. Without access to bromeliads, the specialist animals among them could not exist. When a population of a bromeliad species in nature becomes rare, endangered, or extinct, the specialist animals likewise must become endangered or extinct. Even though some extremely rare bromeliad species are now maintained in culture by bromeliad enthusiasts, little or no thought has been given to maintenance of the animal species that depend upon them. Loss of a bromeliad species on the coast of Brazil or in the mountains of Ecuador, even if the bromeliad is maintained in culture in botanical gardens or private collections, may cause extinction of species of frogs, insects, and other animals.

Adapted from: bromeliadbiota.ifas.ufl.edu/bromelex.htm