

# **Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter**



January, 2013



## **President's Message**

Happy New Year to everyone,

I am sorry, but I will not be able to come to our next meeting because of the date change for the meeting. Our meeting will be a week earlier than usual -- on the second Monday of January (the 14th) instead of the third Monday. I had previously agreed to speak for the Master

Gardeners that night. I hope to see you all next month.

Eileen

## **Next Meeting - Monday, January 14**

**Speaker: Dave Johnston**  
**“Tribute to Chester Skotak”**

Our speaker for the January 14, 2013 meeting will be our own Dave Johnston. The title of his program is “Tribute to Chester Skotak”. Chester Skotak is a bromeliad hybridizer and nursery grower in Costa Rica.

Dave is a commercial bromeliad grower from Pinellas Park. He has been a member of BGTB about 29 years. Dave has filled almost every office and position with the BGTB including President for three terms. He does speaking engagements around the state at various bromeliad societies and garden clubs.

This is sure to be a great program.

Tom Wolfe, Program Chair



## **Minutes, November 19, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by President, Eileen Hart.

Visitors Jean and Julie were welcomed.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter was made by Robert Nelson and seconded by Harriet Gord. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer, Paula Benway reported we have a total of 1014.68 in our checking account plus \$7022.19 in the CD.

**New Business:** Christmas party will be 3rd Monday in December at Christ the King Catholic Church. Sheet for food sign-up was passed around. Plant Exchange: bring a plant to trade with another member. Bring friends to the party, but bring plants for your guests. Bring auction plants.

State Fair Exhibit: Set-up will be Feb.4 at 6:00 p.m. We need volunteers.

Show at Federation - April 18-21. Verna Dickey and Paula Benway are co-chairs. Eileen Kahl is the clerk chair. Tom Wolfe is chair for judges and awards.

**Announcements:** Reimbursement rate for travel mileage is \$.54 per mile. Please use reimbursement form and attach receipts for any type club-related expense. You can get form from Paula Benway.

**Birthday Plant** won by Eileen Kahl

**Show and Tell** - by Tom Wolfe, Nancy Buckley, and Ken Stokes.

**Motion to adjourn by Steve Byram, seconded by Tom Wolfe. Meeting adjourned.**

### **Refreshments and Raffle**

**Program** "Orthophytums to Pergas" was presented by Terrie Bert.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Byram, secretary



**Don't forget! Our next meeting is a week early. Meeting is on Monday, January 14.**



## November Meeting



## Christmas Dinner & Auction





## **Bromeliad FAQ**

### **What kind of potting mix should I use?**

This depends on the type of bromeliad but for most commonly cultivated bromeliads, they like a light, well-draining mix. One of the standard recipes in use by many growers is to make a mix of equal parts of (1) mulch/pine bark nuggets, (2) perlite and (3) composted peat or professional potting mix (a soil-less mix). You want the medium to be able to be moistened easily but drain well.

Most epiphytic (growing on other plants) bromeliads do well in this loose, organic medium but terrestrial bromeliads do better in a mix that retains a bit more moisture. Most terrestrial (growing in the soil) bromeliads do not have leaves that form holding tanks to supply their need for water. These bromeliads include the succulent *Dyckias* and *Hechtias*, the grass-like *Pitcairnias* and the pineapple.

**From [http://www.bsi.org/brom\\_info/FAQ.html](http://www.bsi.org/brom_info/FAQ.html)**



Every month, club members celebrating their birthdays provide the refreshments at our meeting. This way everyone helps once during the year. If you have a May or December birthday, please bring refreshments the following month, since we have the picnic and Christmas parties. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, devilled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

***December Birthdays:*** Mary Fulkerson, Harriet Gord, Marylynn Jones

***January Birthdays:*** Lyla Shepard, Pamela Slagg, Janet Stoffels



## Officers for 2012-2013

**President:** Eileen Hart 813-920-2987

**Vice President:** Dave Mracek 813-968-3666 [VENFLDJM@hotmail.com](mailto:VENFLDJM@hotmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Paula Benway 813-985-3584 [paulabenway@aol.com](mailto:paulabenway@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Steve Byram 813-949-0503 [byramsteve@gmail.com](mailto:byramsteve@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Marilyn Byram 813-949-0503 [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)

### Directors:

Harriet Gord 813-727-6567 [lrcq@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:lrcq@tampabay.rr.com)

Robert Nelson 813-717-9224 [CRBackfive@aol.com](mailto:CRBackfive@aol.com)

Livia Popovich 813-789-8122 [liviapopo@verizon.net](mailto:liviapopo@verizon.net)

Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 [btsgarden@msn.com](mailto:btsgarden@msn.com)

Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 [BromeliadSociety@juno.com](mailto:BromeliadSociety@juno.com)

### Committee Chairs:

Parliamentarian: Mike Sweet

Librarian: Harriet Gord

Show: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey

Membership: Eileen Kahl and Harriet Henry

Publicity: Rhoda Smith

Programs: Tom Wolfe



## Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Rhoda Smith of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have.

Call 813-839-8344 or email at [habitat@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:habitat@tampabay.rr.com).



### Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Society International— [www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— [www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org)

## Any Changes?

If your mailing address, email address, or phone number changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)





The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. was organized in 1963. BGTB is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., National Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.

**When:** Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month. Plant sale at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Christ the King Catholic Church, 821 South Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa

Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments  
Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BROMELIAD GUILD  
OF TAMPA BAY, INC.  
21535 Northwood Dr.  
Lutz, Florida 33549**