

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



February, 2013



President's Message

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on our State Fair booth. We earned a fourth place ribbon. Participants were: Dave Johnston, Dave Mracek, Tom Wolfe, Verna and Robert Dickey, Robert Nelson, Livia Popovich, Anna Hartman, Steve and Marilyn Byram, Julie Lessard, and Beverly Sisco. Many thanks to everyone who “manned” the booth during the fair.

Our next meeting is on the **4th** Monday of February - the 25th at Christ the King Catholic Church. Meeting rooms MMC 1 and 2.

Next Meeting - Monday, February 25

Speaker: Dennis Cathcart

“Collecting the World’s Largest Tillandsia on a Tour Through Columbia”

Our speaker for Monday, February 25 will be Dennis Cathcart. He and his wife Linda own and operate Tropiflora, a bromeliad, orchid and succulent nursery in Sarasota, Florida.

Dennis is a world traveler and explorer as well as a hybridizer and grower. He has explored extensively in Central and South America looking for new species of bromeliads and other plant material. He is in great demand as a speaker throughout the United States as well as many other countries.

We welcome Dennis to our meeting.

Tom Wolfe, Program Chair



Minutes, January 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Dave Mracek.

Visitors Lindsey and Tammy were welcomed.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer, Paula Benway gave the treasurer's report for November and December. She reported a balance of \$7957.14 for the month of November and \$7774.89 for the month of December.

Old Business: We have rented a 4'x8' storage unit at 520 S. MacDill.

New Business: State Fair Exhibit: Set-up will be Feb.4 at 6:00 p.m. We need volunteers to bring plants and help set up our booth. A sign-up sheet for manning the booth during the fair was passed around. Volunteers will receive free tickets to the State Fair.

The nominating committee for officers and directors for the coming year was introduced: Beverly Sisco, Steve Byram, and Eileen Hart.

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.

We need someone to volunteer as our Publicity Chair. Please contact Eileen Hart if you are interested.

Announcements: Tom Wolfe gave the Florida Council Report. Our club is hosting the Florida Council meeting on July 13. If you would like to volunteer your home, please contact Tom Wolfe. Bromeliad Extravaganza will be September 21 at Indian Rocks Beach.

Birthday Plant won by Pamela Slagg

Show and Tell - by Beverly Sisco and Tom Wolfe.

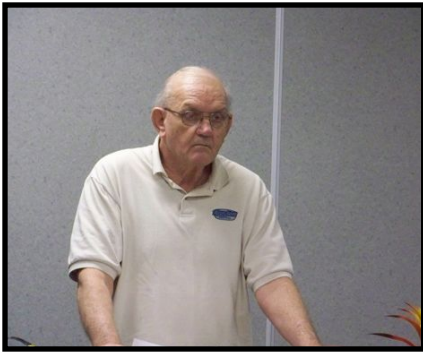
Motion to adjourn by Steve Byram, seconded by Tom Wolfe. Meeting adjourned.

Refreshments and Raffle

Program "Tribute to Chester Skotak" was presented by Dave Johnston.



January Meeting & State Fair



Bromeliad FAQ

How do I fertilize my bromeliads?

Bromeliads are generally slow growing plants that do not need a large amount of fertilizer. The best method seems to be use slow, time-release fertilizers lightly sprinkled around the base of the plant. Never place fertilizer grains directly in the cup of tank bromeliads, doing this will probably burn the foliage and might foster the growth of algae or invite rot. Liquid fertilizer is another good method (especially for air plants that cannot be fertilized any other way). Use 1/2 to 1/4 of the recommended strength and spray several times per season. Flush tank bromeliads occasionally to prevent the buildup of salts that may damage leaves.

Some bromeliads (particularly the grass-like *Pitcarinias*) can be "pushed" to grow quicker by adding extra fertilizer. Most, though, will not benefit by excessive fertilizer which will tend to make the plants "leggy" (excessively long leaves) or, in the case of those with colorful foliage (like *Neoregelias*), it will diminish the colors turning the plant green.

From 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.

February Birthdays: Nancy Buckley, Herb & June Hill, Livia Popovich, Tom Wolfe



Upcoming Events:



Don't forget! Our next meeting is on the 4th Mon. this month. Meeting is on Monday, February 25. Christ the King Catholic Church, Meeting Rooms MMC 1 & 2.

2013 Spring Plant Festival

USF Botanical Gardens
12210 USF Pine Drive
Tampa, Florida
Saturday April 13, 10:00-4:00
Sunday April 14, 10:00-3:00

"Bromeliads in the Garden" 2013 Show

Tampa Garden Club
2629 Bayshore Boulevard
Tampa, Florida
Show and Sale opened to Public
Saturday April 20, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sunday April 21, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Officers for 2012-2013

President: Eileen Hart 813-920-2987

Vice President: Dave Mracek 813-968-3666 VENFLDJM@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 paulabenway@aol.com

Secretary: Steve Byram 813-949-0503 byramsteve@gmail.com

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Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 btsgarden@msn.com

Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 BromeliadSociety@juno.com

Committee Chairs:

Parliamentarian: Mike Sweet

Librarian: Harriet Gord

Show: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey

Membership: Eileen Kahl and Harriet Henry

Programs: Tom Wolfe

Sunshine: Rhoda Smith



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.



Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— 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





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**