

# Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



June, 2011



## President's Message

Happy summer to all. I hope we will be getting our summer rains soon. I'm glad that so many of our bromeliads are drought tolerant. We had a great picnic and auction. I want to thank everyone who brought all that good food. I also want to thank everyone who brought plants and other items for our auction. It was a great success. Keep the plants coming in for our raffle table and for show & tell.

Happy Gardening,  
Beverly Sisco, President

## Program for June 20 Meeting

Speaker: Dave Johnston

“My All Time Favorite Bromeliads”

Our speaker for the June 20, 2011 meeting will be our own Dave Johnston. The title of his program is “My All Time Favorite Bromeliads”.

Dave has been a member of BGTB about 28 years. He has a landscape/lawn maintenance business in Pinellas County and several greenhouses which are packed with bromeliads.

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

## New Vendor Policy:

To help defray the increase in cost of renting the facilities for meetings, the BGTB Board of Directors voted unanimously to charge vendors 20% of plant sales at meetings. This new policy will be in effect at our next meeting, June 20, 2011.



# 2010-2011 BGTB Memories



# The Inflorescence

As a general rule, a bromeliad's inflorescence rises from the center of the rosette of leaves that make up the plant. The group of "embryonic" cells in the center of the cup is referred to as the meristem. This meristem tissue is the source of new leaves as the bromeliad grows but becomes altered in some way when the plant reaches maturity and produces an inflorescence instead of leaves. This is the reason often offered for why most bromeliads only bloom once in their lives. Once the inflorescence is produced, there's no longer meristem tissue to form new leaves and the plant slowly dies.

A bromeliad inflorescence may take a number of different forms. The form alone may be distinctive enough to aid in identification of the plant. This can be **erect** (upright), **pendant** (dangling), **semi pendant** (leaning), or even **reflexed** (pendant and then recurving back toward the upright). A **simple** inflorescence would be a single, unbranched stalk, like *Tillandsia bartramii*. *T. utriculata* is an example of a **compound** inflorescence -- one that branches. A **digitate** inflorescence is one where the attached structures arise from one point and fan outward like fingers. If the inflorescence has closely attached structures on either side of the stalk, we may say that the inflorescence is **pinnate** -- resembling a feather. This type of bloom is often seen in members of the *Vriesea* genus.

By Jay Thurrott

Reprint, September, 2007 *Orlandiana*





Don't forget -

If you wish to continue receiving the BGTB Newsletter, you will need to renew your membership. Fill out the form at the end of this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting or mail it to Paula Benway, 1225 N. Riverhills Dr., Temple Terrace, FL 33617



## Happy Birthday!

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, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

We will have a special drawing for one of the lucky birthday people to take home a nice bromeliad as a Birthday gift from the club.

**May Birthdays:** Judith Pope-Champagne, Lisa Robinette, Randy Wojahn

**June Birthdays:** Phil Elting, Terry Harris, Eileen Hart, Kathleen Ledbetter



## Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Eileen Prins of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have. Call 727-546-9590 or email at [sprins1012@earthlink.net](mailto:sprins1012@earthlink.net)



## **Officers for 2011-2012**

President: Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 [btsgarden@msn.com](mailto:btsgarden@msn.com)  
Vice President: Verna Dickey 813-685-1055 [vernald@verizon.net](mailto:vernald@verizon.net)  
Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 [paulabenway@aol.com](mailto:paulabenway@aol.com)  
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Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 [BromeliadSociety@juno.com](mailto:BromeliadSociety@juno.com)

## **Committee Chairs**

Parliamentarian: Shellie Sweet  
Librarian: Harriet Gord  
Show: Paula Benway and Verna Dickey  
Membership: Eileen Kahl and Harriet Henry  
Publicity: Mike Sweet  
Programs: Tom Wolfe  
Sunshine: Eileen Prins



### **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 or email address changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or [byramm@verizon.net](mailto:byramm@verizon.net)





## Membership Application/Renewal

Memberships: May 1 to April 30 each Year

Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Second Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to: BGTB**

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Single Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Family Membership

**Submit with application to a member or mail to:**

**Paula Benway**

**1225 N. Riverhills Dr.**

**Temple Terrace, FL 33617**

Referred by:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc.**

**Established 1963**

**Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.**

**Plant sales at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

**Where: Tampa Garden Club**

**2629 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa**

**Informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments**



**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.**

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**Visitors welcome!**

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