

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Newsletter



www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org

March 2024

Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society of Tampa

Meeting: Monday, March 11, 2024

Speaker: Kenneth Stokes

“Everything Your Mother Didn’t Teach You About Water, Air, Light and Soil”



Kenneth Stokes

The speaker for the March 11th meeting will be Kenneth Stokes. The title of the program will be “Everything Your Mother Didn’t Teach You About Water, Air, Light and Soil.” We all grow up thinking that we have a good grasp of the meaning of those words, but not always how they relate to the growing of plants. You will be surprised to find out how water, air, light and soil work together to make great plants or cause their death.

Kenneth will also be bringing a nice selection of plants to sell from his rare plant collections of Bromeliads, Cacti, Euphorbia, Ferns and Aroids. Small starter plants will be \$5. and go up to \$50 for

large specimen rare plants that are rare in cultivation.





President's Column
Carol Wolfe

Greetings Members,

Marilyn has previously sent out an email letting you know that our meeting is one week early this month. The Woodmont Clubhouse will be closed on the third Monday of the month setting up for elections on Tuesday, so we are meeting on the second Monday, March 11th and Ken Stokes will be presenting our program, "Everything Your Mother Didn't Teach You About Water, Air, Light and Soil". We look forward to his program. Ken has always provided us with interesting and diverse programs over the years and we appreciate him.

The first part of this year started with computer problems. I discovered that it is almost impossible to do anything without a computer! You can't read your emails, pay bills, map directions, print documents, access pictures, and information, and etc. Trying to operate for several weeks without a computer shows me how dependent I have become on the computer and how important it is to my daily operation. Of course, with a cell phone you aren't completely cut off from the internet and email but who wants to read that much small print? Not me; it is too much strain on the "old" eyes! But we survived, and here we are back up and running!

The USF Sale will be held Saturday and Sunday, April 13th and 14th. Marilyn and Steve have agreed to set up the tent for us; Tom and Martha will be taking plants there on Friday, April 12th at 1:00 p.m. We will need some workers to help on these dates. The busiest time is usually Saturday morning. Please let us know at the next meeting if you want to sell plants or help with the sales. You will get free entrance to the Garden as a worker and you will also have time to visit other vendors to shop.

Next month, our meeting will be on Monday, April 15th. You know what day that is: Taxes are due Uncle Sam! So please get your taxes done early and write Uncle Sam a check so you can attend our meeting. Ray Hernandez will be giving us a program on Palms. Ray is very knowledgeable and the past president of the Palm Society. It will be a great pleasure to have him speak.

We love to have guests, so please invite your friends and neighbors to our meetings and we look forward to seeing you on Monday!



By Tom Wolfe

The Fertilization of Palms and Cycads

Palms exhibit certain nutritional disorders in unique ways. A recommended palm fertilizer for central Florida should have 10 to 20% potassium oxide, 1 to 3% magnesium, and 0.5% of both manganese and iron.

This type of fertilizer is referred to as palm "special". The fertilizer may also contain sulfur and trace amounts of zinc, copper and boron. If possible purchase a fertilizer which has the nitrogen, potassium and magnesium in controlled or slow-release forms.

If soluble forms of these nutrients are used, apply in small amounts more frequently to prevent leaching.

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Minutes of Meeting February 19, 2024

Program was presented by Dennis Cathcart, "A Naturalist Visits Cuba"

Refreshments. We also celebrated Tom Wolfe's 88th birthday!

President Carol Wolfe called the meeting to order. Carol asked if there were any changes or corrections to the January minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. There were no changes.

The Treasurer, Shellie Sweet was absent. She will give the report at the next meeting.

Carol welcomed visitors, Kay Thompson and Lynn McKinney

Our Florida State Fair booth will be taken down tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. Please help if you can.

Door Prize *Neoregelia compacta* x *olens* was won by Clark Hull

Birthday Plant was given to Mark Randall

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Byram, Secretary

Bromeliad Society International Presents
World Bromeliad Conference 2024

May 22-25, 2024 • West Palm Beach, Florida

WBC 2024 will feature an exciting slate of events including a welcome reception, botanical tours, a banquet dinner, several world-renowned speakers & guests, the world's largest bromeliad sale and a professionally judged bromeliad show.

Conference registration for attendees includes:

- Welcome Reception — International poolside barbecue
- Historic WBC 2024 tote bag
- World conference banquet dinner with speaker Andrew Devonshire on 'Hybridising: The Kiwi Way'
- Mounts Botanical Garden tour by luxurious motor-coach
- Access to world renowned speakers & honored guests
- World's largest bromeliad sale
- Professionally judged bromeliad show



Don't wait — register and reserve a hotel room online soon to save!

(Special reduced rates are available to all current BSI members.)

Grant's Farm Nursery Tour



Join us for a special, behind-the-scenes tour to Florida's oldest bromeliad nursery! Reserve your space online for only \$25.

WBC 2024 World-Renowned Speakers



Find the latest WBC 2024 news and registration links online:

www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/

We look forward to seeing you at WBC 2024!

Conference Chairman Tom Ramiccio (Tramiccio@aol.com) & Conference Co-Chairman Alex Belio

Post-Conference Ecuador Field Trip with Plant Expeditions



Complete your conference experience with a 15 day tour through Ecuador. See over 150 bromeliad species in their native habitat!

Also see wildlife—butterflies, birds, insects and monkeys! For more tour information and to reserve your space visit:

www.plantexpeditions.com/plant-tours/2024/ecuador



Snapshots of Meeting - February 19, 2024



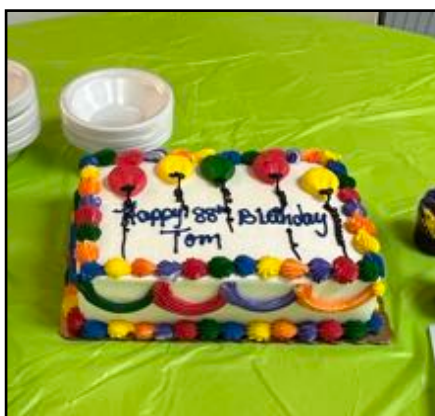
Plants for Sale!



Plants for Sale!



Happy Birthday, Tom!



Happy Birthday!



Birthday Plant won by
Mark Randall



Speaker, Dennis Cathcart



Refreshment Time - Banana Splits



Intro to Raffle Plants - Tom Wolfe



Q and A Time - Steve and Dennis

BROMELIAD & TROPICAL PLANT SOCIETY OF TAMPA

Membership Application/Renewal

Memberships: January 1 to December 31 each Year

Please Print

Name _____ Birth Month _____

Second Name _____ Birth Month _____

Phone (____) _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Date of Application _____

Please check one:

_____ \$25.00 Single Membership

_____ \$30.00 Family Membership

Make checks payable to BTPST

Submit with application to:

Shellie Sweet

3015 Waylon Lane,

Valrico, FL 33596

FOR FIRST-TIME MEMBERS: How did you hear about BTPST?

___ Friend ___ Newspaper ___ Facebook ___ BTPST Website ___ Florida State Fair

___ Plant Festival or Show Other (Please specify) _____

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa

Established 1963 as Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

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

Plant sales at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

BTPST is affiliated with Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.



Refreshments

Refreshments for the February meeting will be provided by Jill Zakaroff, Peter Wan, and Richard Poole



March Birthdays - Happy Birthday to: Paula Benway, Diane Harder-Deminico, Dottie Kellogg, Robert Nelson, Kirk Thor, and Peter Wan



Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Verna Dickey of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have.
Call 813-244-3637 or email vernadickey@aol.com

Officers for 2024

Interim President: Carol Wolfe 813-376-5251 bromstudio@hotmail.com

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Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/366210778024864>

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

Bromeliads Online - <http://www.bromeliads.co.nz/index.html>





The Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa was established in 1963 as the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay. In July, 2022, it expanded its focus to include other tropical plants. BTPST is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, 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.

Where: Woodmont Clubhouse, 415 Woodmont Ave., Temple Terrace, FL 33617

Time: 7:00 p.m.

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

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
BROMELIAD &
TROPICAL PLANT
SOCIETY OF TAMPA
21535 Northwood Dr.
Lutz, Florida 33549**