

# Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



August, 2012

## President's Message



Hi, all,

I was sorry to hear about the passing of long-time member, Don Nores.

The Bromeliad Bash at USF is over. I hope everyone found the bromeliad of their dreams.

Hope your summer is going well.

See you on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Eileen.

## August 20, 2012, Meeting

**SPEAKER: Bruce Holst,  
Director of Botany, Research for Marie Selby Botanical  
Gardens, Sarasota, Florida.**

Bruce Holst will present a program entitled “Into the Lost World.”

Please join our speaker, Bruce Holst for a photographic journey to the summit of Roraiui-tepui, the most famous Venezuelan lost world table mountains, where Selby Gardens is working to conduct a botanical inventory.



Plant science and conservation have been important activities at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens since its founding in 1973. The Botany Department specializes in plant inventory and classification, which is the basic information needed to understand and conserve plant diversity. Staff scientists address the questions, "What are plants called, where do they grow, and how are they related?" Answers involve studies of plant distribution, morphology, molecular systematics, and ecology through research in the field, in the greenhouse, and in the laboratory. Staff botanists, associates, and volunteers have worked as a team to advance conservation projects at local, regional, national, and international levels for 30 years.

Bruce has studied and collected plants of the American tropics. The Selby Gardens Botany Department is the headquarters of the Mulford B. Foster Bromeliad Research Center (BRC), the Gesneriad Research Center (GRC), as well as the Herbarium, Molecular Studies Lab, Spirit Lab, Research Library, and the staff and volunteers offices. The Gardens' collections include extensive living and preserved plants, photographs, and literature, providing a rich environment for conducting botanical research.

He specializes on the floras of Belize, Venezuela and Florida. He is editor of the garden's research Journal, *Selbyanna*, and former editor of *The Journal of the Bromeliad Society International* and the *Flora of the Venezuelan Guyana*. He has led or participated in more than 20 International Expeditions, most recently to Belize, French Guiana and Venezuela. He has participated in Conservation International's Rapid Assessment Program of critical tropical habitats and served in the Peace Corps in Honduras. The meeting is always open to visitors, so please invite a friend or neighbor to attend with you.

A **tepui** ( /'tɛpwi/), or **tepuy** (Spanish: [te'puil]), is a table-top mountain or mesa found in the Guiana Highlands of South America, especially in Venezuela. The word tepui means "house of the gods" in the native tongue of the Pemon, the indigenous people who inhabit the Gran Sabana.



Tepuis tend to be found as isolated entities rather than in connected ranges, which makes them the host of a unique array of endemic plant and animal species. Some of the most outstanding tepuis are Neblina, Autana, Auyantepui and Mount Roraima. They are typically composed of sheer blocks of Precambrian quartz arenite sandstone that rise abruptly from the jungle, giving rise

to spectacular natural scenery. Auyantepui is the source of Angel Falls, the world's tallest waterfall.



The plateau of Mount Roraima. The peculiar rock formation is caused by erosion.



Mount Roraima.

View of Kukenan tepui from top of Mt. Roraima.



The step rock wall of Mount Roraima.

These table-top mountains are the remains of a large sandstone plateau that once covered the granite basement complex between the north border of the Amazon Basin and the Orinoco, between the Atlantic coast and the Rio Negro. Throughout the course of the history of Earth, the plateau was eroded and the tepuis were formed from the remaining monadnocks.



There are 115 such mesas in the Gran Sabana in the southeast of Venezuela on the border with Guyana and Brazil, where the highest concentration of tepuis is found. The precipitous mountains tower over the surrounding area by up to 1,000 meters. On top of the mountains grow various types of forests with a wide variety of orchid and bromeliad species.



Tepuis range in elevation from 1,000 - 3,000 m. Angel Falls, the highest waterfall in the world at 979 m, is found at a tepui.

Because of their great age, some tepuis exhibit surface features and subsurface caves that are typical of Karst topography formed in more water-soluble rocks such as limestone. Caves here include the 671m deep Abismo Guy Collet, the deepest quartzite cave in the world. Some of the mesas are pocked with giant sinkholes up to 300 metres in diameter and with sheer walls up to 300 metres deep. These sinkholes are formed when the roofs of tunnels carved by underground rivers collapse.

### **Flora and fauna**

The plateau of the tepuis is completely isolated from the ground forest, making them ecological islands. The altitude causes them to have a different climate from the ground forest. The top presents cool temperatures with frequent rainfall, while the bases of the mountains have a tropical, warm and humid climate. The isolation has led to the presence of endemic flora and fauna through evolution over millennia of a different world of animal and plants, cut off from the rest of the world by the imposing rock walls. Some tepui sinkholes contain species that have evolved in these "islands within islands" that are unique to that sinkhole. The tepuis are often referred to as the Galápagos Islands of the mainland, having a large number of unique plants and animals not found anywhere else in the world. The floors of the mesas are poor in nutrients, which has led to a rich variety of carnivorous plants. The weathered, craggy nature of the rocky ground means no layers of humus are formed.

The tepuis, also known as 'islands above the rainforest', are a challenge for researchers, as they are home to a high number of new species which have yet to be described.<sup>[3]</sup> A few of these mountains are cloaked by thick clouds almost the whole year round. Their surfaces could previously only be photographed by helicopter radar equipment. Humans still have yet to set foot on many of the tepuis.

**Information and photos from: From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia**

## **Upcoming Events**

Sept. 22: Garden Fest in the Park by the Plant City Garden Club. Train Depot, 102 N. Palmer St., Plant City. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sept. 26-30: Orlandiana World Bromeliad Conference, Caribe Royale, 80101 World Center Dr., Orlando, FL



## **Minutes, July 16, 2012**

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

Visitors, Betty, was welcomed.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter was made by H.T. Sisco and seconded by Tom Wolfe.

**Treasurer's Report:** Paula Benway reported that we currently have a total of \$2,865.43 in our checking account plus \$7,022.19 in our CD.

**New Business:** Orlandiana World Bromeliad Conference. There was a discussion about putting a BGTB ad in the program. Motion to run a \$50.00 ad was made by Tom Wolfe, seconded by Steve Byram. Motion carried.

**Announcements:** Eileen Hart mentioned that the Garden Club is under new management and they are in the process of re-arranging their schedule. There is a possibility that we might have to change our meeting schedule. Eileen will keep us informed.

Orlandiana World Bromeliad Conference. Tom Wolfe and H.T. Sisco gave a report from the planning meeting. They discussed the agenda, tours, banquet, speakers, etc. They encouraged everyone to attend.

John and Kay Miller have offered to rent a room for our members to relax and have refreshments during the World Conference. Volunteers are needed.

New nametags are being made for those who don't have one.

**Birthday Plant:** Won by Nancy Buckley

**Door Prize:** Won by H.T. Sisco

**Show and Tell:** Lyla Shepard, Beverly Sisco, Ken Stokes, Eileen Hart

**Meeting Adjourned** Motion to Adjourn made by Tom Wolfe, seconded by Dorothy Kellogg.

**Refreshments**

**Program** "Neos for Everyone" was presented by Tom Wolfe

Respectfully submitted by Steve Byram, Secretary



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.

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.

**August Birthdays:** Steve Byram, Sara Campos, Dave Fulkerson, Becky Houston, David Mracek, Mary Louise Wojahn, Carol Wolfe





Carol Wolfe of Lutz has been chosen as the Official Photographer of the 20<sup>th</sup> World Bromeliad Conference, Orlandiana '12, to be held September 24<sup>th</sup> in Orlando, Florida.

Her award winning photographs of Orchids and Bromeliads have been published in the Tampa Bay Magazine, The Florida Gardener, The Journal of the Bromeliad Society, and local newspapers and publications. She has received numerous awards in horticultural shows for her photography and artistic show entries.

Carol especially enjoys photographing plants and finds it exciting and challenging to photograph seeking a picture that looks exactly like the live plant. From her experiences, she found light to be the most critical factor affecting photography. Sometimes this means photographing the plant in the early morning light, noonday, or afternoon light; but most of all, it takes patience and persistence to perfect the art.

The World Bromeliad Conference will have many beautiful show entries to be photographed and preserved for future generations. The theme of the 2012 World Conference judged bromeliad show is, "Kaleidoscope of Bromeliads." So get your plants ready to enter and win lots of blue ribbons!

Dave Fulkerson's famous kaleidoscope will again be set up at the World Conference to be viewed by the registrants and their guests. Dave and Mary first shared their amazing pictures at an Annual BGTB Show and then onto the World Bromeliad Conference held in San Diego, California. David and Mary spent many hours sharing their love of bromeliads through the amazing pictures shown in the Kaleidoscope with people from around the world attending the conference. So here we go, "One Mo' Time" sharing this amazing Kaleidoscope.

Also on display at the World Conference and on behalf of the BGTB, we will be using Dave and Mary's large display map of Florida showing the botanical gardens in Florida and providing brochures about the botanical gardens shown on the map. Our thanks to Dave and Mary for all their artistic creations!

If you haven't registered for the conference and made your hotel reservations, do so now, so you can join us in these exciting events.





# ORLANDIANA 2012

**20TH WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

**September 26 - 30, 2012  
Caribe Royal**

**8101 World Center, Orlando, Florida 888-258-7501**

**A link to hotel reservations is at [fcbs.org](http://fcbs.org)  
Rooms starting at \$119 US**

**This world-class event includes outstanding sales, a Rare Plant Auction, seminars, tours, and an opportunity to meet bromeliad collectors and growers from all over the world!**

**Speakers include:**

**Harry Luther  
Francisco Oliva-Esteve  
Paul Isley  
Dennis Cathcart**

**Tours include:**

**Color Zone Tropicals  
McCrory's Sunny Hill  
Russell's Bromeliads  
Home Tours**

**Sponsored by**



[bsi.org](http://bsi.org)

**Betsy McCrory  
WBC Chairman**

**[Betsymccrory@aol.com](mailto:Betsymccrory@aol.com)**

**Hosted By**



**Check [bsi.org](http://bsi.org) for a schedule  
of activities and events.**

[fcbs.org](http://fcbs.org)

**20th World Bromeliad Conference**  
**Hosted by BSI & FCBS**  
**(The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies)**

**Caribe Royale Hotel**  
**Orlando, FL USA**  
**September 24 – October 1, 2012**

**Registration Fee** (in United States Dollars)

\$US 160 if postmarked on or before February 28, 2012

\$US 175 if paid between March 1, 2012 and August 24, 2012

\$US 200 if paid August 25, 2012 thru On-Site Registration

***If you are not currently a BSI member, you need to pay for an annual membership in addition to the above registration fee for the Conference as follows:***

USA residents add \$45 single and \$60 dual membership (add \$5 for 1st class delivery) Other countries add \$50 single and \$65 dual membership (includes airmail delivery) You will automatically become BSI members with the added fee.

**Please Print or Type (we want to be able to reach you).**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Badges (membership will be verified) \_\_\_\_\_

BSI affiliate (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Amount due: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment by check in U.S. \$ to WBC 2012 – or - Credit Card: Visa or Mastercard

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/yy)

Name as it appears on credit card (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

Registrations paid before Feb. 28, 2012 are 100% refundable. Registrations paid March 1 – August 24, 2012 are 70% refundable. After August 25, 2012 no refund. You may also pay at the Conference.

**Remit Registration & Payment to:**

Dan Kinnard  
BSI Membership Secretary  
6901 Kellyn Ln. Vista CA 92084-1243,  
USA

Contact your local affiliate to receive a \$10 discount on registrations received on or before August 24, 2012.

## **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)

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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: Shellie Sweet

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.

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, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales,  
door prizes, raffle & refreshments

Visitors welcome!

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