

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Newsletter



www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org

August 2023

Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Meeting: Monday, August 21, 2023

This month's program will be presented by Dave Johnston. He will give a presentation on Bigenerics: Part 2. Dave is the owner of Bromeliads Galore Nursery in Pinellas Park, Florida. He has been specializing in growing bromeliads for 32 years. He grows approximately 1000 different species and hybrids.

Dave said his interest in Bromeliads began when he purchased the only two Bromeliads that Frank's Nursery had for sale. A Cryptanthus Pink Starlight and a Neoregelia carolinae type. Soon thereafter, he learned there were Bromeliad Clubs that shared similar interests so he joined the BGTB in 1985. He has been the past president of the Tampa Bromeliad Guild and the West Coast Bromeliad Society.



By 1990, Dave had acquired so many Bromeliads that he launched Bromeliads Galore, a collector's nursery. Over the past 37 years, he acquired over 2000 different species and hybrids.

Dave will be bringing a nice selection of bromeliads to sell at the meeting; a choice gift to bring a smile to your or a friend's face.

We want to welcome new member, Mark Randall, and returning member Ray Hernandez.





PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Our thanks to Kenneth Stokes for his program, "The Creative Mounting of Bromeliads". It was a great program and we hope you are inspired to try some of the examples that he gave.

Dave Johnston, a former member of the BGTB, will be our guest speaker this month giving us a program on Bigenerics - Part 2. We look forward to having him with us and he always gives us an interesting program.

Let's share our great programs and our new meeting place with friends and neighbors. Invite someone to come with you! Let's make it our goal for each of us to get at least one new member this year. We have a beautiful meeting place and great speakers so let's share the good news with the people in our neighborhoods, friends, and co-workers.

My apologies to you for the delay in starting the program; however, each speaker's computer is a little different so we have had some difficulties getting the projector to recognize the speaker's computer. Our thanks to Guido Zakaroff for his assistance last month in getting it set up. We didn't know you were a computer whiz! Thank you!

The Clubhouse personnel will have written instructions for us this month and we hope to overcome any delays. It is really nice to have the projector and the screen at the clubhouse so that someone does not have to carry them back and forth each month.

I know that each of you appreciate our beautiful new facilities after several moves this past year. As part of our contract we are to clean up, put the tables and chairs back in place, vacuum the floor, take out the garbage, and leave the kitchen spotless. You all have been great to help with the cleanup and we are usually done in about ten minutes. I appreciate all of you and especially you guys that have vacuumed as it is a heavy machine for the ladies and taking the garbage out the back kitchen door to the container is so appreciated by us ladies!

Looking forward to seeing you next Monday!

Carol Wolfe

Meeting Snapshots July 23, 2023





Cryptanthus

Cryptanthus are primarily terrestrial plants; however, a few species are found growing in fissures of rocks which makes them saxicolous. It causes me to cringe when I see them entered in a show as mounted specimens. They require rich, moist soil and fairly low light. Most are found on the floor of the rain forests in eastern Brazil which explains the moist, rich soil and low light.

Many people refer to them as 'earth stars'. They are mostly flat loose rosettes of various colored leaves and inconspicuous white flowers which open in the center of the plant. They propagate from offsets at the base of each leaf in the center of the plant or in a few species, from stolons. The solid, striped or banded leaves may be any combination of colors. The compact size and star shape make Cryptanthus very desirable for dish gardens and terrariums.

A regular potting mix with the addition of coarse sand and perlite for good drainage is what I recommend for Cryptanthus.

They should be protected from temperatures below 40°F. However, I have had Cryptanthus in my landscape for years and they have survived at temperatures below 40°F without any special attention or coverage.

Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Minutes of Meeting July 23, 2023

Business Meeting Called to Order by President Carol Wolfe

Treasurer's Report: by Rick Hunter. Report will be filed for audit.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes from last month's meeting as published in the newsletter made by Tom Wolfe, seconded by Robert Nelson.

Door Prize Plant was won by Rick Hunter.

Show and Tell: Tom Wolfe - Neoregelia 'Martin', Nidularium procerum, Billbergia 'Muriel Waterman', Achmea blanchetiana, Tillandsia Baileyi, Tillandsia bulbosa, Achmea callichroma, Sincoraea; Kenneth Stokes - Tillandsia ionantha, Tillandsia species, Neoregelia kerryi, Achmea tillandsiodes, Billbergia Hallelujah hybrid pink champagne, Neoregelia species; Verna Dickey - Neoregelia sybil, Achmea fasciata pink and white

Motion to end meeting made by Steve Byram, seconded by Verna Dickey

Refreshments

Program: Kenneth Stokes presented a program on "Creative Mounting of Bromeliads". He had numerous useful tips for us.

Raffle conducted by Steve Byram

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Byram



Refreshments

Refreshments for the August meeting will be provided by Steve Byram, Mike Foley, Loretta Hodgdon, and Taira Hoopes.



August Birthdays: Happy Birthday to Steve Byram, Mike Foley, Herb & June Hill, Taira Hoopes, and Carol Wolfe



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 2023

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Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay www.bromeliadguilddoftampabay.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.
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