



Orlandiana

Newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Volume No. 31 Issue No. 01 January 2005

Next Meeting: Monday, January 24, 2005

6:30 pm Refreshments

Where: Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Ave. Orlando

7:00 pm Meeting Starts

This Month's Program: This month's program is "Miniature *Neoregelias*" and will be presented by Tom Wolfe. Tom, a member of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay for more than 38 years, is the immediate past president of the Bromeliad Society International (BSI), past chairman of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and a past president of his own society. He has held other leadership positions in these organizations as well. It is through Tom's efforts that Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota will house the World Headquarters of the BSI. Tom has been active in other plant organizations, including the local orchid societies, the Royal Horticultural Society, and the Tampa Federation of Garden Clubs. In addition to his volunteer and civic work, Tom owns a landscape business in Tampa.

Tom will be bringing miniature *Neoregelias* for sale at our meeting. It is always a pleasure to welcome such a knowledgeable speaker. Come join us on Monday night for an evening with Tom Wolfe.

●●●●●●●●●● No Member Market This Month ●●●●●●●●●●

Raffle Plants: *Tillandsia* 'Creation' Show & Tell: All Members Refreshments: A -H

Membership Dues Are Due!

Membership dues for 2005 are now due. If you received a membership application in the November newsletter, please fill it out and return it with your dues. You don't want to miss an issue of our excellent newsletter! If you need to renew, and don't have an application, you can bring your check to the meeting or call Treasurer Betsy McCrory.



President's Message

Happy New Year!

Thank you, everyone, for the great holiday party. There were so many delicious dishes, and now we want those recipes! If you want to share your holiday dish recipes, bring them to the meeting or you can email them to me. Central Florida's members have the best potluck dinner, hands down, anywhere! By the way, if you left a platter behind after the dinner, I will have it at the meeting on Monday night.

We have reordered the Bromeliads and Bromeliad Weevils of Florida field guide, a pack of cards depicting Florida's native bromeliads and with information about the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil. They will be available at this month's meeting for \$5.00 each.

Spring is a busy time for our society. We get to show our best bromeliads, sell our extra bromeliads, and get new members at two important events. The Leu Gardens Sale comes early this year and the Mothers Day Show and Sale will be held in a new location. Come to the meetings and watch the newsletters for more information about these events that are so important to our society.

Your Board of Directors welcomes Quyles Force as our new secretary and extends its thanks to Betty Salvas for her year serving our members in this position. Aside from great cooks, we also have so many dedicated volunteers – you all are the ones who make Bromeliad Society of Central Florida work! Thank you, all!

Karen Andreas

BSCF Annual Mothers Day Show and Sale May 6-8, 2005

Our Mothers' Day Show and Sale is changing locations this year. It will be held at Fashion Square Mall on S.R. 50 in Orlando. This is our biggest event of the year where we showcase our best bromeliads and introduce our plants to the public.

Betsy McCrory and Karen Andreas are the co-chairmen. Volunteers to chair several committees are needed to help coordinate this event. More details will be available at our meeting this month.

Mark you calendars for this weekend of bromeliad fellowship and fun!

Freeze Cloth is Still Available

It's not too late to get more freeze cloth from Betsy McCrory. There is 50 feet of the 7 ½ foot-wide cloth for 42 cents a foot; 200 feet of the 15 foot-wide cloth at 84 cents a foot. Call Betsy or email her at Betsymccrory@aol.com before the meeting to place your order.

For Those Feeling a Little Wilted or Under the Bench

Get well cards were sent to Magali Groves and John Boardman.

News about Bromeliad People

Carolyn Schoenau has finished her term as chairman of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Carolyn, who is a BSCF member, served in this office for Gainesville in last year's rotation.

Ed Hall, also a BSCF member, is the new Florida Council chairman, serving for Seminole Bromeliad Society.

Sudi Hipsley, BSCF member and president of Seminole Bromeliad Society, is the new Florida Council treasurer.

If you have any news, bromeliad-related or non-bromeliad-related, that you would like to share with our members, let Karen Andreas know. Contact Karen at karen@digital.net



The Florida Council Report

Karen Andreas

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies held its quarterly meeting on January 8 in Sarasota. Karen Andreas and Betsy McCrory represented Central Florida. Ed Hall is the new chairman and Sudi Hipsley has taken over the treasurer's position.

Jeff Haviland is the new editor for the Council newsletter. His first task is to publish the membership list, to be distributed to all Council members. This service was suspended several years ago and will be offered once again, thanks to the efforts of Betsy McCrory. Jeff intends to run a list of commercial growers in the newsletters; these will be nurseries that are licensed by the state.

There will be a BSI Judges School in Ft. Myers on March 5. Contact Betty Ann Prevatt for more information.

Ebay continues to be monitored for Council pictures being used to sell bromeliads. The pictures on the Council site are all copyright protected and, as clearly stated throughout the Photo Index, their commercial use is strictly prohibited.

Dr. Howard Frank reported success on the efforts to use a fly to attack the Mexican bromeliad weevil. The fly has a voracious appetite for the larvae of our "Evil Weevil" and will be imported into a new quarantine facility for further testing. Ultimately the hope is to release this fly in an effort to keep the Mexican bromeliad weevil under control. Work continues on developing a trap for use in monitoring weevil infestation in Florida habitat. Another greenhouse study is underway in Gainesville to determine which ornamental bromeliads are at risk to the fly.

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies is a non-profit confederation of the twelve bromeliad societies. Each bromeliad society has two representatives to the Council which meets quarterly at different locations throughout the state. Societies host the meetings and provide officers in rotation. Information about the Council, its Bylaws, and the officer and meeting rotations is available at the Council site, <http://fcbs.org> > About FCBS, or from your Council representatives, Karen Andreas and Betsy McCrory.

Nidularium

By Karen Andreas

The genus *Nidularium* was first described in 1845. The name is derived from the Latin word *nidulus*, meaning small or little nest, describing the rosette shaped inflorescence that is found nestled in the center of some of the species. *Nidularium's* native habitat is Brazil, where its 45 species are found in the lower parts of rain forests at sea level to the edge of cloud forests. They grow in the litter on the forest floor, on low tree limbs and sometimes are found on rock outcroppings.



Nidularium antoineanum

Moisture is a key component in the native environment of *Nidularium*. In cultivation, the soil should be moist but well drained.

Do not let the soil or the rosettes, of the *Nidularium* dry out completely. While *Nidulariums* grow well in semi-shade and shady conditions, a little morning light will ensure that the leaves do not grow long and strappy. They can be grown well indoors if they have some humidity, filtered or diffused light and consistent temperature. They do not like temperatures below 55°.

Pups can be removed when they are at least one-third the size of the mother plant. The pups do not like to be over-potted; start them in 4" pots. Mature *Nidulariums* will thrive in 6" pots.

Nidulariums make excellent landscape plants. They add texture, shape and color to collections and are good for low light conditions, including in the home or office. Leaf color may be light or dark green, green with white stripes, green on top, maroon on bottom, green mottled with purple, or maroon. The rosette-shaped inflorescence is long-lived, often for several months. In some *Nidulariums*, it sits nestled down among the leaves; in others, it rises on a stalk above the center of the plant.



Nidularium meeanum

The shape also varies, with some rosettes of densely formed leaves and other inflorescences having a spiky appearance. The inflorescence turns color when in bloom: rose, cerise or maroon. Its flowers are red, blue or white, and they open in sequence.

Nidularium is a rewarding bromeliad to grow. With its elegant leaves and intensely colored inflorescence, it is an attention getter in any collection.

Nidularium linehamii was named for BSCF member Tom Lineham in 1993. Tom is a former BSCF president and the former editor of the BSI Journal. This handsome *Nidularium* has medium to light green leaves with a rose red center and violet-blue flowers.



Nidularium antoineanum grows both terrestrially and epiphytically in habitat. Its dense rosette is pink when it commences blooming and turns to purple or mauve as it ages. Steens highly recommends this as a landscape plant, which should be prominently displayed for its dramatic impact.



The inflorescence of *Nidularium fulgens* turns "fire-engine red, which lasts for more than six months, fading to cerise as it ages." (Steens) Its dark green leaves are spotted.

The leaves and rosette of *Nidularium 'Leprosa'* are green, mottled with purple. Even the rosette has the spots.

Nidularium meeanum has an inflorescence that is spiky as opposed to the dense rosette of other *Nidulariums*.

Nidularium fulgens

All pictures courtesy of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website. See more *Nidulariums* at <http://fcbs.org> > Photo Index.

Sources

- Baensch, Ulrich and Ursula Baensch. Blooming Bromeliads. 1994.
 Leme, Elton. Nidularium: Bromeliads of the Atlantic Forest. 2000.
 Padilla, Victoria. Bromeliads. 1973.
 Plevier, Herb and Joyce Brehm, editors. Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual. Bromeliad Society Inter. 2003
 Rauh, Werner. The Bromeliad Lexicon. 1990.
 Smith, Lyman B and Robert Jack Downs. Flora Neotropica Monograph No. 14, Part 3, Bromelioideae. 1979.
 Steens, Andrew. Bromeliads for the contemporary garden. 2003.
 Williams, Barry E., editor. Growing Bromeliads, Second Edition. The Bromeliad Society of Australia. 1990.

Out & About with Pam Flesher

Seminole Bromeliad Society Show at Blossom World **March date to be announced**

March 5, BSI Judges School – contact Betty Ann Prevatt for information. Ft. Myers

March 5 & 6, Leu Gardens Annual Plant Sale

1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando, FL 32803 Phone: 407-246-2620, www.leugardens.org
Free Admission Hours: Both days 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. except for early admission on Saturday at 8:00 a.m. for Leu Garden Members only. Our society will have a booth and members are encouraged to participate. More information will be at the meeting and in the newsletter.

March 17-20, 50th Annual Everybody's Flower Show

Florida East Coast will have a bromeliad display. Ocean Center, Daytona Beach

March 18 -19, Gainesville Bromeliad Society

Kanapaha Gardens Spring Sale,
Gainesville will have its bromeliad sale at this event.

March 18, 19, & 20, "Bromeliads and All That Jazz"

Bromeliad Show, Sale, & Rare Plant Auction presented by the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. Location: The Tampa Garden Center, 2629 Bayshore Blvd., Tampa, FL Free Admission to Show & Sale Hours: Friday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Banquet & Rare Plant Auction at 7:00 p.m. (Reservations required \$19.00 per person) Sunday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information contact: Tom Wolfe, Show Chairman, Cell: 813-391-1542 or e-mail: bromeliadsociety@juno.com

March 19 & 20, Spring Plant Fair

Marie Selby Gardens, 811 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236
Phone: 941-366-5731 www.selby.org Hours: Both days 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Admission Special: \$6.00 (Early admission for members only at 9:00 a.m. on March 19.)

March 26 & 27, Orchid & Bromeliad Expo & Sale

Hours: Both days: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission: \$12 adults, \$6 children (4-11)
Location: Flamingo Gardens 3750 S. Flamingo Road, Davie, FL 33330-1614 From I-95 North or South. Take I-595 West to Flamingo Road. (Exit #1B) Turn South for 3 miles on Flamingo Road. For More Information: Call (954) 473-2955

ANNUAL LEU GARDENS SPRING PLANT SALE

MARCH 5 & 6, 2005

This very popular plant sale has been moved to an earlier date this year. The sale will be on Saturday, March 5 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, March 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is a very exciting event for plant lovers with over 10,000 of them attending over the weekend. People pull plant carts, push wheelbarrows, and take the baby out of the buggy to carry all their new plants around. Parking is at a real premium around Leu Gardens during the sale so be warned.

The BSCF was one of the first to get their application in so we expect to get the great shaded space that we had last year just south of Eco Square. **Continued on pg 7.**

Society members that would like to sell plants during this event need to let Bob Stevens or Butch Force know so that we can arrange the space available. Sellers must bring their own tables and chair and label their clean pest free plants as per Society specifications. Mounted and bare root plants may be sold. 25% of your sales will be deducted as a donation to BSCF for Society programs that directly benefit you.

We also need members to volunteer some of their time to assist in the sales area. You can help box or bag plants, collect sales tags, answer questions about plants and the Society. This event always brings in new members for us and is a great opportunity to learn more about bromeliads. You can sign up to volunteer at the Society meeting or contact Bob at thamilton@cfl.rr.com or Butch at LForce6766@aol.com.

Glossary

Aerial – In the air, as roots borne above the ground or water.

Anther – The pollen-bearing part of the stamen.

Supply Store

BSCF SUPPLY STORE
WHOLESALE PRICES FOR CLUB
MEMBERS
UPDATED: JAN. 2005

PLASTIC POTS: (sold in EVEN DOLLAR amounts only)

3" - 25 pots	\$1	(4 cents each)
4" - 15 pots	\$1	(6.7 cents each)
5" - 10 pots	\$1	(10 cents each)
6" - 7 pots	\$1	(14.3 cents each)
8" - 3 pots	\$1	(33.3 cents each)
10" - 2 pots	\$1	(50 cents each)

BASKETS, SLATTED WOOD: 8" with hanger \$3

LABELS:

4" - 200 for \$3

5" - 100 for \$3

FERTILIZER:

NUTRICOTE 13-13-13 with Minors

Slow release - (180 days) (2 lbs) for \$3

LIQUID Concentrate DYNA-GRO 7-9-5 (8 oz) \$4

POT HANGERS: 25 for \$15 (60 cents each)

Designed for 6" pots - "Slightly Adjustable Diameter"

6" diam. X 17" tall, with 2 hangers - Galv. 12 gauge Steel

Questions, special needs or advance orders -

Contact John Boardman at jboard55@yahoo.com



The Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, Inc. was formed in 1972 to encourage the exchange of information concerning the culture, identification and hybridization of the plant family *Bromeliaceae*; to promote & maintain public interest in bromeliads and to assist in the preservation of all bromeliads for future generations.



Meetings are held the 4th Monday of every month from 7-9 PM at Harry P. Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Avenue in Orlando. For directions: 407.246.2620 or www.leugardens.org. You'll enjoy informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, refreshments & door prizes. Members also receive a monthly newsletter — all for only \$10 per member, plus \$2 per additional family member (no charge for full-time students). Visitors are always welcome.



BSCF is an affiliate of the Bromeliad Society International, Inc. and a member of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. and the Cryptanthus Society.

BSCF is a nonprofit Florida corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations to this society are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.



President	Karen Andreas	karen@fcbs.org
Vice President	Bob Stevens	Use above address to contact Officers
Secretary	Quyless Force	
Treasurer	Betsy McCrory	
Librarians	Phyllis Baumer	
	Sudi Hipsley	
Editor	Steven Wagner	
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Address Correction Requested

January 2005

Next Meeting: Monday, January 24

Time: 6:30pm Refreshments

7:00pm Meeting begins

Program: Miniature *Neoregelias* with Tom Wolfe

Refreshments: A - H

Show & Tell: All Members

Raffle Plants: *Tillandsia* 'Creation'