

Orlandiana

Newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Volume No. 32

Issue No. 03

March 2006

Next Meeting: Monday, March 27, 2006

6:30 pm Refreshments

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

NO Member Market

7:00 pm Meeting Starts

Refreshments & Silent Auction Plant, Members D –K

This month's program will be on judging plants presented by Ron Schoenau

This month's meeting and next were planned to educate and encourage the newer members of the society to participate in showing their plants at the upcoming show in May. This month's program will be on judging plants presented by Ron Schoenau, a member of BSCF since 1975. Ron was in the first series of judging classes in Florida, receiving certification at the 1982 World Bromeliad Conference in Corpus Christi and from there worked his way up to master judge. He has chaired the World Bromeliad Conferences' Sales Committee in 1980, 1988, 1992, and 1996 after which he retired from chairing WBC committees. Ron has also served on the BSI Board of Directors for three years.

Ron is retired from the University of Florida after 46 years, 28 of which he was director of the central site computing and networking facility. He and his wife, Carolyn, live at Oak Hammock, a continuing care retirement community at the University of Florida. After acquiring his first bromeliad in 1974 Ron and Carolyn continue growing bromeliads in a community greenhouse where they have had to reduce their collection of species and hybrids from approximately 900 to around 500 due to space limitations. I would like to make note that we are very fortunate to have Ron speak to us this month. He is extremely active in a local organization on a weekly basis and holds a position of responsibility. After rearranging his schedule and calling in favors Ron is able to make this meeting.

For the judging program Ron has asked that members bring in example plants for judging. As this will be an educational opportunity for the newer members it will also be an opportunity for the more experienced members to be of help to them by bringing in a range of plants as examples of what are suitable for show. As the more experienced members know, not all plants have to be "perfect". I am looking forward to seeing everyone at this month's meeting as we begin to gear up for our event of the year in May.

Gary Signs

Ron and Carolyn Schoenau will be selling plants at the meeting this month.

Out & About With Pam Flesher

March 25 & 26

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Harry P. Leu Gardens Spring Plant Sale, 1920 Forest Avenue, Orlando

Hours: Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sunday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Free Admission www.leugardens.org or 407-246-2620

March 31 & April 1 & 2

Tropiflora 7th Annual Spring Festival Open House and Sale

3530 Tallevast Road. Sarasota

Hours: Friday and Saturday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Sunday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Six acres of greenhouses, vendors from all over Florida with hourly raffles to benefit Marie Selby Gardens.

Free admission and parking. Lots of door prizes. Look for discount coupon on website at www.tropiflora.com

More information phone: 941-351-2267

April 1

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society, Master Gardeners Sale

Volusia County Fair Grounds State Road 44, just off I-4

Hours: 9:00 AM – till? (half day only)

April 9

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Annual Bromeliad Bonanza

Blossom World Gardens, 4225 Bloom Lane, Sanford

Hours: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Contact: Bud Martin at 321-363-7351

Free Admission and parking.

April 8 & 9

18th Annual Spring Plant Festival

University of South Florida Botanical Gardens

4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa Phone (813) 974-2329 or <http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden/>

Hours: Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Sunday 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Admission: \$3.00, Free for children under 12. Free parking. Over 70 vendors including local plant clubs and societies, commercial growers from all over the state, free lectures and experts on hand, food and drinks available. Be sure and visit the Garden Plant and Book Shop.

April 22 & 23

Bromeliad Society of South Florida Annual Show and Sale

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables (South Miami)

Phone 305-667-1651 or www.ftbg.org Hours: 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM

An extra bonus at this year's show is the Dale Chihuly Glass exhibit, which is located outside all through the Garden. A spectacular display of colorful glass forms that blend in with nature. Don't miss this one! If you are not able to make the show the exhibit will be in the Garden until May 31st. Hours: 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM Admission is \$20 for adults, \$15 Senior citizens 65 and older, \$10 for children 6 - 17, and free for Fairchild members and children 5 and under. Fairchild admission includes admission to the Conservatory and Whitman Tropical Fruit Pavilion at no additional charge. Show Chairman: Robert Meyer, 305-668-3344

April 29 & 30

Apopka Foliage Festival

Kit Land Nelson Park in Apopka on Park Ave. ¼ mile north of Hwy. 441

Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Free Admission

Local nurseries will be selling their blooming plants and other foliage with an

Arts and Craft Show also in the park. Plant sitting available while you walk through the show.

Bus tours both days to local nurseries. Information: 407-886-0155

May 12-14

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Mothers Day Show and Sale

Contact Betsy McCrory 407-348-2139

June 6 - 11

Bromeliads on the Border: 17th World Bromeliad Conference

Bromeliad Society International

Town and Country Resort & Convention Center

500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, California 92108

Information: www.bsi.org

July 15 & 16

Sarasota Bromeliad Society Show & Sale

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

811 South Palm Avenue, Sarasota, FL 34236

Phone: 941-366-5731 ext 221

Email: contactus@selby.org

Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM both days

Admission: \$12 to Gardens and Show , Free Parking

Membership Dues

All membership dues need to be paid by April 1. If you have not paid your dues this could be your last newsletter. For you who have not paid I have enclosed another dues form for your convenience.

McCrory's Sunny Hill Nursery Field Trip

35152 La Place Ct., Eustis (352) 357-9876

Saturday, April 8 @ **10:00 a.m.**

From Orlando, go east on I-4 and take the exit for S.R. 46 in Sanford. Turn left onto 46 and go until the turn-off for 46A. Go right on 46A to S.R. 44. Turn left onto 44, pass the traffic light at 437 and go about 1 mile, La Place Ct. will be on the right. Go to the end of La Place and park on the left at the loading dock area. Please note: We will meet at 10:00 a.m. not 10:30 a.m. as was mistakenly reported in last month's newsletter.

Mothers Day Show Is a Go

After many months of negotiations with the Orlando Fashion Square Mall they have graciously agreed to charge us only \$250 for the use of the mall. They will be providing the same as last year, the tables, covers, signage on the road, and signage in the mall. They will also put up the tables and take them down like last year. Now it is time for us to get on the ball. You need to start picking out your plants that you would like to show. The program this month should help you make your choices. I will also need your help to put on the show so please volunteer for one of the many committees that make this show possible. I would like to thank Karen Andreas for her many hours of negotiations with the mall. Let's not disappoint the mall, with our efforts we can put on the best show ever. See you at the meeting.
Betsy McCrory, Show Chairman

Pups - A Bit of Lexicography

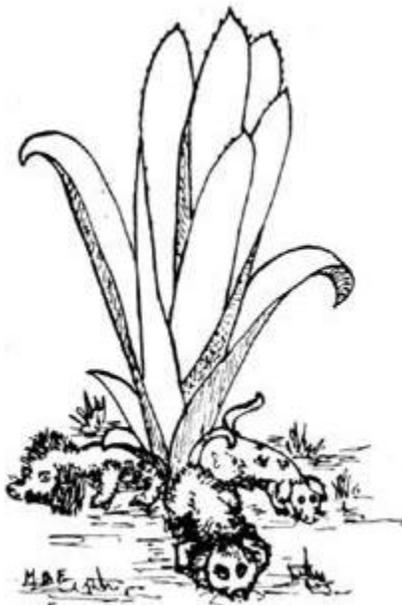
By *Derek Butcher*

Just where did this expression start in Bromeliads? It means the offsets that occur at the base of the plant. After questioning Brom-L and Round Robin participants on the Internet in August 2005, Geoff Lawn of Perth suggested the answer could well lie in Brom Soc Bull. 1952 where Mulford Foster, the then Editor wrote about Muriel Waterman. Anyone who has read about Muriel from her fellow Kiwis will realize she was a one eyed Bromeliad grower and rather eccentric too! Her diaries could well have been destined for the rubbish tip but for the action of Andrew Flower who saved them from a shed in a local Botanical Garden. These make interesting reading and suggest her main contacts were in England or the USA. She had very little contact with Aussies.

This is what appeared in the Bulletin with a drawing of pups by Mulford Foster where the caption reads "Mrs Waterman is never in the doghouse but she is always finding 'pups' on her bromeliads".

OUR NEW ZEALAND TRUSTEE in Brom. Soc. Bull. 2(4):1952

Mrs. Muriel Waterman is our honorary trustee from New Zealand; there are few members who have worked so actively for new members in our struggling Society. So infectious is her enthusiasm that ten recruits have succumbed to her spell! And she doesn't just let it go at that; she buys the last ten copies of the bromeliad issue of the Missouri Botanical Bulletin (Sept. 1945) and sends them to the new Zealand members for Christmas with a neat reminder that their renewal to the 1952 Bromeliad Bulletin is due. And, as if that were not enough she has paid for three subscriptions so that she can have two extra copies each month just to loan around (for bait we suspect!) This is the real bromel booster spirit. We believe that before long they will have enough members to form a local chapter of Bromel Boosters Down Under.



Bromeliad Pups

Mrs. Waterman is never in the doghouse but she is always finding "pups" on her bromeliads.

Her enthusiasm is classic! No one but a genuine plant lover could express herself so originally, so simply and effectively. She does not only converse about her plants but they speak to her.

Mrs. Waterman lives several miles from Auckland. When a package of bromels arrived sometime ago she went into a whirl after receiving a telegram from the airport which stated, "Please uplift carton bromeliads from Pan American." What happened after that is best described in her own words. "Not being dressed for a trip into the city I rushed into a covering long coat and tore down the road adjusting clothes, hat and buttons as I flew, yelling to the busman who was almost out of earshot, to wait for me. Luckily, he happened to see me, or I would have had to wait another hour, and it is an hour's ride to the airport. You can imagine with what animated suspension of anticipation I made that ride. It was a big thrill to behold my box of bromels being unpacked for inspection."

"When finished and back in the bus, I clasped the box to my bosom, practically 'talking' to them all the way home. What an event on this side of the world! After

rushing into the house, I hurried through tea, since it was 5:15, and then hurriedly shut up twelve coops of baby bantams, (a ceremony I usually do more lovingly) told my husband not to call me for anything under the sun! Then proceeded with my precious cargo to the sanctum of my glasshouse where I fondly unpacked each prize from another world. As I carefully unwrapped each plant I dipped it, head down, into one of two buckets of tepid water, (each a different depth); I allowed them to drain and then planted each treasure with its already prepared name-label. Finally I sprinkled the lot with a child's watering can. Already they looked as if they had come from a greenhouse across the street instead of from half way round the world!"

Clearly Mulford Foster was impressed with the word 'Pups' and we know from reports from others that it was a word that Mulford frequently used. I feel sure it was because of his great influence on bromeliad growers for nearly 30 years that this expression is now so widespread. It is catchy and has less letters than offsets or offshoots, and never gets confused with cuttings! Why pups and not kittens or chickens will remain a mystery. There is also a suspicion that this term was used even earlier with Agaves and Aloes of Succulent plant interest. It should be noted that these too are monocotyledons like Bromeliaceae and offset similarly.

And now to the word 'keiki' that means child in Hawaiian. This word is used by plant growers in Hawaii for any offset to a plant whether Banana or Bromeliad! Interestingly it has been used to describe the offsetting seen in so many orchids for which Hawaii is famed, that occur high on the stem and not at the base. This has lead it to be associated with this sort of happening in Bromeliaceae, say *Tillandsia secunda* or even *T. dasyliriifolia* (see Ramirez in J. Brom. Soc. 54(3): 112-121. 2004).

It is a trait of the English language to experiment with new words or new meanings as though there are not enough already! Some continue and some get discarded. I am sure that 'pup' will remain in Bromeliad usage for many years to come but will always refer to 'normal' offsetting at the base. The seedling type offsets that sometimes occur in Alcantarea and saxicolous Tillandsias have yet to have their own special name. It has been said that 'hair pups' and 'grass pups' have been used to describe these in the USA but these have not, as yet, appeared in any official publication of the BSI. Which one will appear first? Which one will prevail? Other offsetting in the inflorescence such as you find in Orthophytum and others, will get the name adventitious added to them if only to denote they are emerging in an unexpected place. Outside Hawaii, will 'keiki' apply just to these floral phenomena? Who knows?

Finally you would have noticed the use of the word 'bromel' by Mulford Foster which was a word he coined. Much to the disgust of both Racine and Mulford, Aussies further reduced it to broms!

I would like to thank the various respondents from Brom-L and Round Robin that made this article possible.

From BSL.org

Plant Donations

Many thanks to the individuals who have donated plants in the past and those who plan to do so in the future. The revenue generated by these plants at raffle and auction enables the society to fund many of its programs. I would like to acknowledge your generosity by providing a placard for your donated plants like those for the raffle plants from vendors for the past two months. Let me know at least a couple of days before a meeting that you will be bringing donation plants. You can reach me at (407) 855-4378 or e-mail: gsignorlando@hotmail.com. And as an added reminder to all, please have your

plants properly tagged whether it's for donation, selling, or exchange for the benefit of the receiver.
Thanks! Gary Signs

Minutes of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida February 27, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by president Bob Stevens. There were 45 members and two guests present.

Bob announced that there were blank order forms for supplies in the back of the room. Let Bob know what supplies you want and he will deliver them at the next meeting.

Penny Bullard and Grant Groves brought in show and tell plants. Grant conducted the show and tell.

Karen Andreas introduced guest speaker Jay Thurrott who presented pictures from his visit to the nursery of Josefa Leon, in south Florida. She is known for the beautiful colors of her bromeliads and her eclectic – and largely unnamed – collection. Jay also shared pictures of a method of forcing bromeliads into bloom using acetylene and water; and he showed dramatic pictures of the value of frost cloth in protecting bromeliads down to 27 degrees, which is the coldest temperature at his home in Port Orange. Many people expressed interest in contact information for Mrs. Leon's nursery: Sunshine Ranches, Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, 14601 Sheridan Street, Fort Lauderdale 33330, 954-434-4148, 954-249-2205 (cell).

Break was called at 7:45; the meeting reconvened at 8:05.

Karen read a request from Helga Tarver and Derek Butcher for pictures from anyone growing *Neoregelia* Takemura 'Grande', 'Takemura Silverado' and 'Silverado'. Contact Karen if you have pictures of these bromeliads from your collection.

The January minutes were inadvertently left out of the newsletter; they will be printed in the next issue and approved at the March meeting.

Karen asked members if they were interested in hosting or helping to host the World Bromeliad Conference in 2008. Interest was about 50-50; members did not care for the current financial terms offered by the BSI and would like to see better terms negotiated before any serious consideration is given to the proposal.

Betsy McCrory gave the treasurer's report. There is \$584.64 in checking; \$11,199.93 in money market; total assets are \$11,819.51.

Russ Gregg reported on the Leu Gardens sale. He asked for volunteers to work. This was the last night for those interested in selling to sign up. The location for Central Florida will be the same as last year's.

Betsy McCrory reported that Fashion Square Mall wants a \$5000.00 fee for the Mothers' Day Show. She has a contact at the home office for the Mall owner and asked Karen to write an email to explain about the society, its purpose, what it does with the money it raises, and see if they will waive the fee. There was some discussion about alternative sites, including Festival Bay, Oveido Mall, and West Oaks Mall.

The March program will be on judging. The program will be given by Ron and Carolyn Schoenau.

Bob announced the results of the silent auction. The door prize and raffle plants were drawn.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Andreas
Secretary

BSCF Minutes

January 23, 2006

The meeting was called to order by president Bob Stevens at 7:00 PM. There were 57 members and five guests present. Bob thanked Kathy Phinney, Sue Rhoads, Betsy McCrory, Phyllis Baumer and Pam Flesher for their work coordinating the holiday party.

Vice president Gary Signs conducted show and tell, with John Boardman and Jim Pearce discussing the bromeliads they brought.

Gary introduced Dean Fairchild whose program was about identifying common bromeliad genera and showing the differentiating characteristics between some genera.

Bob called for a break at 7:50; the meeting reconvened at 8:10.

Bob reminded everyone that the dues are now due.

The supply store is going to be conducted two or three times a year, by advanced order. Look for notice in the newsletter of supplies that are available – pots, fertilizer, potting mix, hangers. The orders will be placed in advance of the meeting and delivered on the meeting night. Let Bob or Betsy know what supplies you are interested in and they will check on availability.

Bob asked for any feedback on the Member Market. The consensus was that it works well and needs no improvements.

The minutes were accepted with a correction, noting that Michael Andreas is the webmaster of the Florida Council website and that BSCF does not have one of its own. Motion carried unanimously.

Betsy presented the reconciled budget from 2005. She also presented the report for November and December 2005: income of \$130.00; expenses, \$532.22; Money Market account, \$11,189.72; total assets are \$11305.94. Motion was made and carried unanimously to accept the treasurer's report.

Bob announced he had received the report of the Audit Committee and all is in order.

Karen Andreas gave the Florida Council report. Two proposed bylaws changes will be in the next Council newsletter, which should be mailed the first part of February. BSCF is hosting the Council meeting in July; a location is still to be determined. The Extravaganza will be on September 30; details will be in the Council newsletter. The Council is losing one of its seed growing sites and a new nursery for raising bromeliad seedlings will be needed in 6-8 months. Anyone interested can contact Betsy or Karen for information. The Council is discussing the possibility of sponsoring the World Bromeliad Conference in 2008.

Russ Gregg has agreed to chair the Leu Gardens sale. The deadline for signing up to sell bromeliads is February 27. Plant sale rules were handed out and will be available again at the February meeting.

Bob announced that Betsy is the chairman of the Mothers Day Show and Sale. The mall still has not indicated if they are going to charge the society for the show. Betsy will continue to work with the mall and solidify plans.

Sweetwater Oaks Homeowners Association has invited BSCF to have a booth at their sale on April 2 in Longwood. Contact Bob if you are interested in participating.

Gary Signs announced future programs: Bruce Carpenter from Agristarts4 will give a program next month on tissue culture. In June there will be a program from DeLeon on orchids. One member expressed concern about the program being non-bromeliad one. Bob invited those with ideas on programs and speakers to give the information to Gary.

The results of the progressive auction were announced. Door and raffle prizes were given away. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Andreas, Secretary

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.



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Permission to reprint is granted with acknowledgment. Please send all correspondence to the address below:



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Address Correction Requested

March 2006

Next Meeting: Monday, March 27, 2006

Time: 6:30pm Refreshments
7:00pm Meeting begins

NO Member Market This Month

Refreshments: D - K
Speaker: Ron Schoenau.
Program: Judging bromeliads
Ron and Carolyn will be selling plants at the meeting

