

Orlandiana

Newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Volume No. 32

Issue No. 04

April 2006

Next Meeting: Monday, April 24, 2006

6:30 pm Refreshments

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

& Member Market

7:00 pm Meeting Starts

Refreshments & Silent Auction Plant, Members L –N

This Month's Speaker

This month's speaker is Dave Christiano from Springfield, Missouri and will be giving a presentation focusing on growing contrast between Florida and "the frozen north". He will include portions on weather, solar insulation, day length, water quality, and include some pictures of his favorite plants. Dave and his wife, Mary, have been growing Bromeliads and have been members of BSI for over 30 years and have attended the World Conferences since about 1977. Dave has served on the Board of Directors of the New York Bromeliad Society and is currently on the BSI Nominating Committee. He has also given several presentations at World Bromeliad Conferences and has published a few articles in the BSI Journal. Dave and Mary have traded plants with growers from all over the country often coming up with some surprises and will be bringing pups for those interested in trading.

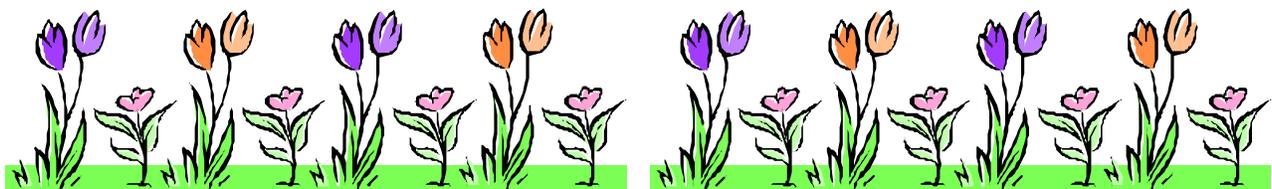
Bromeliad People

Russ Gregg just had a photographer from Garden Design magazine at his house, taking pictures for the magazine.

Neal Ekengren had a crew from HGTV filming his yard.

Earlier this month Karen Andreas and Bob Stevens presented a program on bromeliads for the Orange County Library System.

Karen Andreas will be teaching bromeliad workshops at Leu Gardens this summer.



2006 Mothers Day Show Report

Now is the time for everyone to start picking out your plants that you plan to enter in the show. Remember they don't have to be perfect, but they do need to be clean.

Awards Chair, Sudi Hipsley, is now accepting donations for the awards. A minimum of \$15 is being accepted. If you are sponsoring one of the special awards, please note that on your check. Remember that your donation will be tax-deductible. Everyone who sponsors an award will have their name on the sponsor board near the awards table.

Classification Chair, Grant Groves, will be there Thursday night to help you identify your plants if you don't know the names.

Clerks Chair, Steven Wagner, is busy getting together clerks for the show. See Steven if you are interested in Clerking.

Entries Chair, Quyles Force, will have entry tags and entry forms at this meeting so you can fill everything out ahead of time.

Judges Chair, Ron and Carolyn Schoenau, are busy getting judges for the show. Let's have a lot of plants for them to judge.

Placement Chair, Bob Stevens, will need helpers to place the plants on the tables after they have been through classification. If you can help please let Bob know.

Plant Sale Chair, Eileen Laird, needs to know who is bringing plants for sale. Remember you must enter 5 plants in the show to be able to sell. If you are bringing art please let her know. There will be some backgrounds for hanging both art and plants. If you need anything special you will need to bring it. There will be sign up sheets for help selling plants on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday so please plan on helping.

Publicity Chair, Pam Flesher, needs your help getting the word out about the show. Please pick up some flyers both big and small at the meeting and post them everywhere you can think of. Pam will need to know the location because we need to let the mall know that we are doing our part to get people into the mall.

Schedule Chair, Karen Andreas, has the show schedule done and they will be available at the meeting.

Security Chair, Gary Signs, will need people to sign up to help watch over the show and awards area. There will be sign up sheets at the meeting. Members are needed for Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Anyone who can not make the meeting and are willing to help please let me know and if you need entry tags, entry forms, show schedule please let me know so I can get it to you ahead of time.

I am planning on going to the mall before the April meeting to find out exactly where we will be having the show. At this time it will be in the same area as last year but subject to change. Hope to see everyone at the meeting and if you have any questions please let me know.

Betsy McCrory, Show Chair (407) 348-2139 or Betsymccrory@aol.com

Florida Council Report

By Karen Andreas

The quarterly meeting of the Florida Council was held on Saturday, April 8, in North Fort Myers. Bob Stevens and Karen Andreas represented Central Florida.

Ron Cave, from the Indian River Research and Education Center in Ft. Pierce, reported progress on the project to raise and release parasitic flies as biological control for the Mexican bromeliad weevil. These flies are raised in Honduras and shipped to the research facility in Fort Pierce, with the eventual goal of releasing them to bring some control to the weevil. Ron Cave and Dr. Howard Frank will be starting the permit application process for the release soon.

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society held an auction to benefit the Council and raised \$1962.00. Caloosahatchee president Diane Molnar and treasurer Betty Ann Prevatt presented the check to Council chairman Vicky Chirside.

This year's Extravaganza will be held on September 30 at the Miccosukee Resort and Convention Center in South Florida. Register for one night at the hotel and buy two banquet dinners and you will receive a complimentary copy of Elton Leme's Bromeliads of the Atlantic Rain Forest. Banquet attendees also will receive a miniature flowering bromeliad from Deroose.

Look for more information in the next issue of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies Newsletter in early May.

No one society in Florida has expressed interest in taking the lead on hosting the World Bromeliad Conference in 2008. There does not appear to be any other society anywhere else interested in hosting a conference; consequently there may not be a WBC after this summer until 2010 when New Orleans will host.

The two proposed Bylaws changes passed unanimously. Affiliate members must not miss four consecutive meetings in order to maintain good attendance in the Council. The second change redefined the quorum from two-thirds of the affiliate societies to a simple majority.

The next Florida Council meeting will be in July; our society will be hosting this meeting.



Thanks to the following individuals for their donations to the March's Door Prize/Silent Auction/Raffle:

John Boardman, Eloise Beach/Jim Pearce, Pam Flesher, and John Moxley!

Dyckia – Light-Loving Bromeliads

By Karen Andreas



Found mostly in central Brazil (some are also in Uruguay, Paraguay, Argentina and Bolivia), these members of the Pitcairnioideae family are terrestrial or saxicolous (grow on rocks). Dyckias grow in dry, open and rocky climates where they are exposed to extremes in drought and wet conditions as well as to very bright or direct sunlight.

There are 145 species and varieties of Dyckia. Their size ranges from several inches to five feet across. Dyckia leaves look succulent; they are stiff, have spines and are green, rose, maroon, tan or silver, often with heavy scurf (the white or silvery powdery substance often seen on

bromeliad leaves). Their growth habit is generally a dense or tight rosette form and most grow easily into clumps.



The Dyckia inflorescence does not come from the middle but appears laterally, from among the leaves. It is either simple or only has a few branches. Flowers range in color from yellow to orange to red.



D. platyphylla Photo by Bromeliario Imperialis

Because Dyckias are terrestrial and develop large root masses, they need larger pots than what is normal for this size bromeliad. They also do very well when planted in the ground. Use potting media that drains well; plant only the root area, do not plant too deeply. While they are drought tolerant, do not allow them to remain dry to the point that their leaves start to shrivel. If your Dyckia gets to that point, water frequently or replant it in a soil that retains more moisture, at least until it recovers.

When repotting, it is best to wear gloves. You may have to remove the entire clump from the pot in order to get pups or break up the mass.

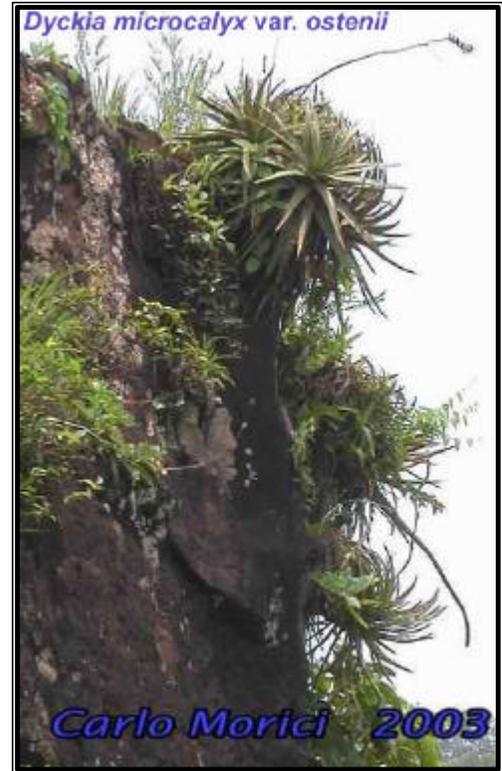
D. marnier-lapostollei v. *estevessii*
Photo by Michael Andreas



Padilla recommends growing Dyckias with succulents and cautions against pampering these bromeliads. Williams, when writing about fertilizing them, echoes her words. You can use slow release fertilizer when repotting your Dyckia, Williams writes, but “the beauty of these plants is more evident if they are hard grown and not pampered.”

Williams calls *D. marnier-lapostollei* v. *esteve* “an “extreme xerophytic form”, meaning able to tolerate drought. It requires well-drained potting media and needs to be well ventilated. For best results, keep the soil barely damp in the winter. This is a slow grower.

D. microcalyx var. *ostenii* is found on rocky banks in hard sun. Its inflorescence is simple, with yellow flowers. *D. microcalyx* var. *ostenii*
Photo by Wilson Kuahary



D. minarum grows on rocks or on open rocky ground in its native habitat. Its leaves are edged in curved spines.

Smith and Downs states that the origin/provenance of *D. platyphylla* is unknown, however that does not diminish its popularity in collections.



D. ursina comes from Brazil where it grows on dry rocky ground. “Ursina” means “bear-like”. The name refers to the brown, woolly substance that grows on the inflorescence and part of the flowers.



All pictures are courtesy of the Bromeliad Encyclopedia, fcbs.org.

Sources

<http://fcbs.org>. Species Database. April 9, 2006.

Padilla, Victoria. Bromeliads. 1973.

Smith, Lyman B and Robert Jack Downs. Flora Neotropica Monograph No. 14, (Pitcairnioideae) (Bromelioideae). 1974.

Steens, Andrew. Bromeliads for the contemporary garden. 2003.

Williams, Barry and Ian Hodgson, ed. Growing Bromeliads. 1990.

Out & About With Pam Flesher

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

August 19 & 20

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

Fall Tropical Plant Sale at The Garden Club of Sanford

Hours: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Contact: Sudi Hipsley at 352-728-5002 or Bud Martin at 321-363-7351

The public is invited. Admission is free.

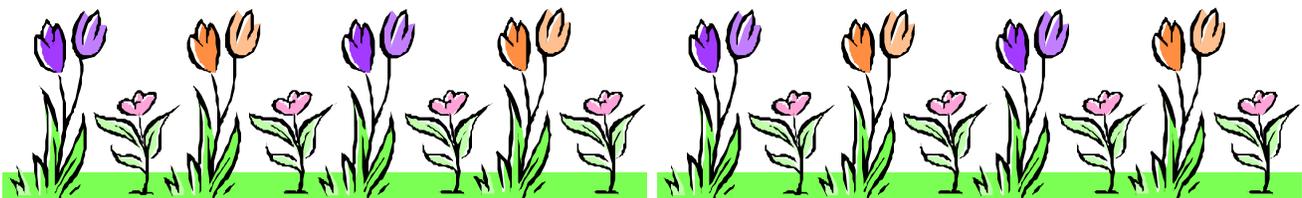
September 30

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' Extravaganza

Presented by the Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Miccosukee Resort and Convention Center, Miami

500 S.W. 177 Ave., Miami. More information to follow.



Minutes of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

March 27, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by president Bob Stevens. Forty-one people were in attendance, including four guests.

Vice president Gary conducted show and tell.

Gary introduced the guest speaker, Ron Schoenau, a BSI judge and long time BSCF member whose program was about what judges look for when judging bromeliad shows.

Bob called for the break at 8:05; the meeting was reconvened at 8:20.

Bob reminded members to pay their dues. There are still a few supplies remaining from the supply store: 4" pots (20 pots for \$1.00) as well as time release fertilizer. Contact Bob to place an order.

The minutes from the January and February 2006 meetings were approved.

Treasurer Betsy McCrory reported an income of \$401.60 for the month of February; expenses were \$384.64; ending balance in checking is \$601.54. In the money market account, there is \$11,208.87; cash on hand is \$35.00. Total assets are \$11,845.41.

Betsy also reported that it appears from the preliminary numbers from the Leu Gardens sale that the society made about \$800 more than last year's proceeds. Bob thanked Russ Gregg for chairing the Leu Gardens sale.

Betsy announced that the Mothers Day Show will proceed at the Orlando Fashion Square Mall, thanks to Karen Andreas' negotiations. BSCF will pay only \$250; that includes the mall providing tables, set-up of the tables, table dressings and advertising on the signs outside the mall. Betsy encouraged everyone to groom their plants and enter them so there will be another outstanding show. The show schedule (show and sale rules) will be available at the April 24 meeting. The Artistic Expression section has been elevated to a head table award; this section allows for artistic interpretations of bromeliads, including wood carving, photography, painting, drawing, etc. Grant Groves handed out 1000 flyers for the show this past weekend at the Home and Garden Show. Contact Betsy if you are interested in helping out at the show and sale.

Karen mentioned that she is compiling a list of bromeliad nurseries for the next issue of the Florida Council newsletter. If you have a state-inspected bromeliad nursery or know of one that should be included, please contact Karen.

Members approved making a \$300 donation to the BSI for the World Conference with \$200 designated for the taxonomic seminars and \$100 for awards.

Pam Flesher offered brochures and told members about the Dale Chihuly exhibit at Fairchild Gardens in Miami. Bromeliad Society of South Florida is having its show there at the same time.

Gary conducted the door prize and raffle drawings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Andreas

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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April 2006

Next Meeting: Monday, April 24, 2006

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

**There Will Be a
 Member Market This Month**

Refreshments: L - N
Speaker: Dave Christiano
**Program: Growing contrast between
 Florida and "the frozen north"**