



Orlandiana

Newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Volume No. 30

Issue No. 06

June 2004

Next Meeting: Monday, June 28

6:30 pm Refreshments

6:30 pm Member Market

7:00 pm Meeting Starts

Where: Leu Gardens 6:30-6:55

1920 N. Forest Ave.

Orlando

Program: Bromeliad Pests

Speaker: Dr. Barbra Larson.

Dr. Larson is an Entomologist at the University of Florida working in the Integrated Pest Management Program.

Refreshments: L – M

Raffle Plants: All members

Minutes of Meeting, BSCF May 24, 2004

The meeting was called to order by President Karen Andreas at 7:00 p.m.

Karen reminded members to sign in, pay dues, and purchase raffle tickets at the back table. She also pointed out the location of the supply store, the silent auction table, and the refreshment table in the back of the room.

Karen welcomed guests to the meeting and then introduced the following new members: Russell Gregg, Paul Moisiso, Philip O' Brien, Jeanne Ashbaugh, Rod Ashbaugh.

Bob Stevens, John Boardman, and Karen Andreas led members in presenting Show and Tell items. John also mentioned that next month the supply store will have more eight-inch wooden slat pots available for \$3.00.

Eloise Beach told members that someone in Casselberry is giving away bromeliads and that another person in Winter Park also is giving away plants. Eloise provided the phone number for the person in Casselberry.

Bob introduced guest speaker Jim Steele from Kerry's Bromeliads in Homestead, who presented a slide show of the commercial bromeliad growing business.

At 8:00, pups were taken from the *Nidularium rutilans*, which Dot McNulty brought in. These pups were presented to new members and the leftovers used for raffle and door prizes.

At 8:05, Karen Andreas announced a ten-minute break. The meeting was called back to order at 8:15.

Under Old Business the minutes from the April meeting were unanimously approved, motion by Marilyn Oshman and seconded by Shawn Shamrock.

The Treasurer's report was given by Betsy McCrory and as of April reflects \$416.92 in the checking account, \$35.00 cash on hand, and \$12,833.99 in the money market account.

Betsy announced that preliminary total sales from the Mother's Day show at the Florida Mall totaled \$11,760. However, she noted that the society had many expenses associated with the show and estimates that the income will be about \$1,000. Eleven members had plants for sale at the show and about 1,200 plants were sold. There were 148 plants entered in the show's competition, and the judges awarded the following: 89 award of merit, 56 blue ribbons, and 20 red ribbons. There were 17 entries in the Artistic category. **Continued on page 2.**

President's Message

Summer heat is here and bromeliads are thriving in our gardens and collections. Steven Wagner, our editor, noticed that *Orthophytums* are in bloom, so this month you will find an article on that genus as well as pictures on our color page. Bring your *Orthophytums* for this month's show and tell.

If you are planning on attending the World Bromeliad Conference in Chicago this August, you need to make your hotel reservations no later than July 19 in order to get the conference rate. Information about the conference, conference schedule and hotel are on the Bromeliad Society International's web site at bsi.org, under "Events."

Speaking of web sites, pictures of our annual Mothers Day Show and Sale are now on the website of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, at fcbs.org, under "What's New."

Our newsletter is also on the Council web site, under "Member Societies."

This month's speaker is Dr. Barbra Larson, an entomologist at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Many of us know Barbra from her work on the Mexican bromeliad weevil. Her program at our meeting will be a broader look at the pests that may plague our bromeliads. It's always a pleasure to hear Barbra, so be sure to join us at our meeting this month.

Karen Andreas

Minutes, from page 1. Betsy thanked Darden Restaurants for providing the judges' lunch and also thanked everyone who participated in the show. The Cryptanthus awards were presented to Eloise Beach and John Boardman. Karen thanked Betsy for being the show chair.

Eloise Beach moved that the society donate \$100 to the BSI Journal color fund in memory of Bert Foster. The motion was seconded by Ed McNulty and unanimously approved by the members.

Bob Stevens announced member birthdays. There was also an announcement that Ed and Dorothy McNulty will soon be celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary.

The evening's silent auction results were announced, door prizes were awarded, and raffle tickets were drawn and prizes distributed.

There was no further business to come before the membership, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Tina Hamilton, (for Betty Salvas, Secretary)

Welcome New Members

Jeanne & Rod Ashbaugh, Philip O'Brien
Russell Gregg & Paul Moio, Jingle Lutz
Robin Norton

Bromeliad Sources

Bromeliad Sources is provided as a service for our members. Nurseries listed are recommended and have been used by our members. If you know of a nursery specializing in bromeliads or you own a nursery with bromeliads and would like to be listed, contact Karen Andreas at karen@fcbs.org

Blossom World Gardens

Bud Martin, 1403 Pineway Drive, Sanford, FL 32773
321.363.7351, email: fmartin256@aol.com
Call for hours, Bromeliads and other plants.

Boggy Creek Bromeliads

Betsy McCrory, 3615 Boggy Creek Rd, Kiss. FL
34744
407.348.2139
Open Saturday & Sunday, 10am-2pm or by appointment
Specializing in Landscape Bromeliads (Aechmeas and Neoregelias)

Eloise Beach, Apopka

By appointment, 407.886.8892 or
FloridaPRO@aol.com
Wide variety of genera; variegated & unusual varieties; landscape bromeliads.

Michael Kiehl Bromeliads

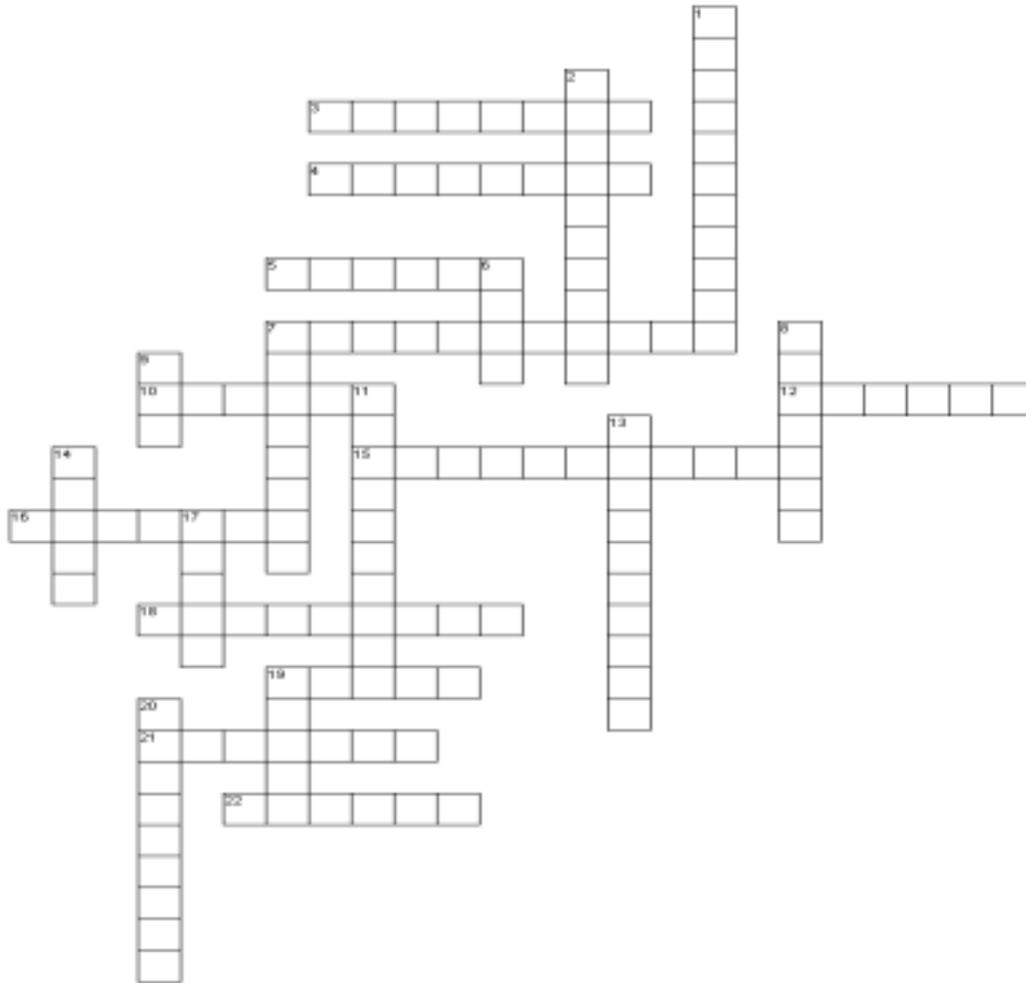
973 First Dirt Road
Venice, FL
941.488.4011
mikesbroms@direcway.com
Billbergias, Neoregelias and more. Email or call for hours or catalog.

Russell's Bromeliads

John and Jimye Kaye Russell, Sanford, 407.322.0864
Wholesale and Retail, call for appointment.
Specializing in Tillandsias, assorted Neoregelias.
Grape wood and mounting supplies available as well as books and other bromeliad supplies.

Tropiflora

Dennis and Linda Cathcart
3530 Tallevast Road
Sarasota, FL 34243
800.613.7520
<http://www.tropiflora.com>
Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Saturday,
8:00 AM – 3:30
Go to the website to read to the Cargo Report, a newsletter and catalog, and to subscribe to the VIPP list, email notice of limited and rare bromeliads.



Across

3. Aechmea with the common name of "Silver Vase"
4. Tillandsia with Paddle-shaped inflorescence
5. The evil _____
7. Earth stars
10. Pups are formed at the end of these
12. Mrs. Laird
15. From the Greek for 'straight plant'
16. _____ espinosae
18. _____ Society of Central FL
19. A more or less modified leaf subtending a flower
21. Florida has _____ native bromeliad species
22. _____ 'Cherry Coke'

Down

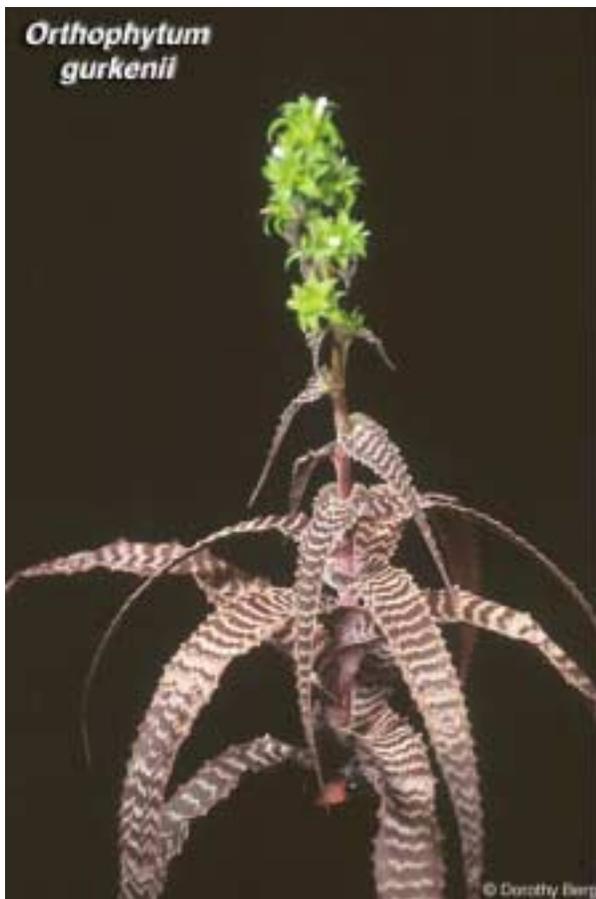
1. Billbergia species
2. Monocarpic Tillandsia
6. Where photosynthesis and transpiration take place
7. An unvarying variety of plant produced by selective hybridization
(Neoregelia x Aechmea)
9. Bromeliad Association with members around the world, abbr.
11. Some blush before blooming
13. A structure for growing bromeliads that offers no frost protection
14. BSCF President
17. A white covering on some bromeliads
19. BSCF Treasurer
20. Spanish Moss

Genus *Orthophytum*

By Karen Andreas

Bromeliads in the genus *Orthophytum* grow as terrestrials. Within this genus there are 33 species and 18 cultivars. Its native habitat is the eastern seaboard of Brazil where it grows in clumps and in mats under high light conditions and on rocks, often by riverbeds and waterfalls where it has access to humidity and water. Although found growing among, around and on rocks, *Orthophytum* roots reach between cracks and fissures to get to the moisture and nutrition they need.

There are three types of growth habits among this genus: those with erect inflorescences, such as *O. gurkenii*, creeping varieties such as *O. vagans* and those with inflorescences that appear “nestled” among the rosette of the leaves such as *O. navioides*.



They are tolerant of our temperature ranges here in central Florida. While temperature highs and lows do not pose problems for this bromeliad, bright, sunny light is critical. Although *Orthophytums*

seem to go almost dormant during the winter months, Carol Johnson wrote that she often saw her *Orthophytums* “rejuvenate” during a wet November. It makes sense, considering their native habitat: high light, rough and dry growing conditions but with access to water at the roots.

So grow them in bright sunny light. Plant your *Orthophytum* in a soil mix that drains well and let it dry out slightly between watering. *Orthophytum* also grows well in rock gardens along with succulent plants. Remember that even if they do grow well over and between rocks, their roots must have contact with some soil or source for water.

Here are several of the more popular species.

O. gurkenii. This *Orthophytum* has wide leaves that are banded and appear succulent. Its inflorescence is upright and leaves grow along the inflorescence. Where the inflorescence bends to touch the ground under the weight of the leaves along its length, new bromeliads will grow.

O. navioides. This *Orthophytum* is found growing on perpendicular rocks above streams. Its leaves are narrow and glossy green, up to a foot or longer in length, and turning orange to red at maturity with a rosette inflorescence. This *Orthophytum* propagates by long stolons, stem-like growth with a new bromeliad at the end.



O. saxicola. *Saxicola* is found on dry, hot table rock, growing in dense mats. It is a small bromeliad, growing about 5 inches wide in habitat. In cultivation, with more generous growing conditions (ample soil and water); it may grow to 14”. Its leaves may be bronze, or a dusty bronze as in *var. saxicola* or green as in *var. viridis*.



saxicola var saxicola



O. 'Copper Penny'

***O. vagans*.** Padilla described this as a “trailing plant, [whose] elongated stem rambles over and around rocks, forming large mats.” The flower bract is formed at the top of the leaves and sits down inside, never rising to any height. The color of the leaves ranges from green to orange and red at maturity.



Popular cultivars include

O. 'Blaze' - a cross between *vagans* and *navioides*, showing the colorful and shiny leaves common to both species, as well as the rosette inflorescence.

O. 'Copper Penny' - a cross between *saxicola* and *vagans*. It also has shiny red leaves and, from the *saxicola* side, a clumping growth habit as opposed to the trailing growth habit of its other parent, *vagans*.

An *Orthophytum* is a good bromeliad to grow in our area. Their diverse shapes and inflorescences make them an interesting addition to any bromeliad collection.

Sources:

Johnson, Carol. “*Orthophytums* are Extra-ordinary. Journal of the Bromeliad Society. Vol. 49, Number 1, 1999.

Leme, Elton and Luiz Claudio Marigo. Bromeliads in the Brazilian Wilderness. 1993.

Oliva-Estevé, Francisco. Bromeliads. 2000.

Pleber, Herb and Joyce Brehm, editors. Bromeliads: A Cultural Manual. 2003

Smith, Lyman B. and Robert Downs. Flora Neotropical: Bromelioideae: Monograph No. 14, Part 3. 1979.

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

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

Insect and Related Pests of Bromeliad Online Slide Show

By: Dr. Barbra Larson

Entomology and Nematology Department
University of Florida, Gainesville

This online slide show with 71 slides will introduce you to the insects and pests that can harm your Bromeliads. You will see what these pests look like and the kind of damage they can do to your bromeliads. You will also learn the best management techniques for dealing with these pests. While this program is slanted for Florida Bromeliads the information presented should be of use to you no matter where you live. You can view the slide show at <http://www.fcbs.org/articles/BromeliadPests/BromeliadPests.htm>

For Those Feeling a Bit Wilted or Under the Bench

Get well cards were sent to Glenda Wojtasiak, Dorothy Mahler and Betty Salvas. We hope they are all feeling better soon.

Mark Your Calendar By Pam Flesher

June 25 - 27, 2004

Sarasota Bromeliad Society's 24th Annual Show & Sale at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens 811 South Palm Avenue • Sarasota, Florida 34236 • Tel: 941.366.5731

This is a judged show sanctioned by the Bromeliad Society International. Hundreds of hard-to-find bromeliads, including rare species and hybrids, will be displayed and available for purchase. Society members will be on hand to answer plant care questions.

Admission to the Bromeliad Show & Sale is included in regular admission to Selby Gardens. Please note: Sale only on Friday; Show and Sale Saturday and Sunday.

July 10 & 11 TROPICAL PLANT FAIR
Saturday 10 am - 5 pm; Sunday 10 am - 5 pm
Bromeliads, Orchids, Gingers, Fruit trees, Plumerias, and many other kinds of plants. Children's activities.

Admission \$3.00, under 12 free. Free parking. Botanical Gardens at University of South FL Tampa campus. Pine & Alumni Drives off Bruce B. Downs Blvd., One block north of Fowler Ave. Phone Number: (813) 974-2329 <http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden>

August 12 & 13

Bromeliad Bonanza in the Plant Shop
Saturday 9 am - 4 pm
Sunday Noon - 4 pm
Botanical Gardens at University of South FL Tampa campus. Pine & Alumni Drives off Bruce B. Downs Blvd., one block north of Fowler Ave. Phone Number: (813) 974-2329 <http://www.cas.usf.edu/garden/>



Weevils in Florida

At present, 576 weevil species are known from Florida, of which 526 are native, and a few of them are pests. Among the 50 species of foreign origin, 5 were introduced deliberately as biological control agents of weeds; the other 45 are immigrants ([O'Brien 1995](#)).

Among the immigrants are some important pests, many of which probably arrived as stowaways in cargoes of plants and plant materials, were not detected by agricultural inspection, and established populations in Florida. Eleven of them, reported in the literature for the first time since 1970, are listed by Frank & McCoy ([1992](#)). Alfalfa weevil, Apopka weevil (also called sugarcane rootstalk borer weevil), boll weevil, Fuller rose weevil, pepper weevil, and sweetpotato weevil are other pests that probably arrived as hitchhikers in cargoes.

They are among the relatively few weevil species in Florida that have been given English names, and that is because people encounter them commonly because their populations are large and they cause damage to crop plants. Hundreds of species of native weevils have not been given English names, and are poorly known, because they are interesting only to a few entomologists, not to the general public.

Five weevil species were introduced and released for biological control of aquatic weeds (hydrilla, waterhyacinth, waterlettuce, and watermilfoil) ([Frank & McCoy 1993](#)) and another more recently for control of *Melaleuca*. Each of them is a specialized feeder on one of those weed species.

Florida now has three species of the genus *Metamasius*. One, *M. mosieri*, is native or at least has been in Florida for a long time. The second, *M. hemipterus*, is an immigrant detected in 1984 and attacks palms, banana plants, sugarcane, and occasionally pineapple; it has a wider range of host plants than do most *Metamasius* species. The third, *M. callizona*, detected in 1989, is also an immigrant, and attacks bromeliads. A fourth, *M. monilis*, which attacks orchids, was also an immigrant, but was eradicated soon after its initial detection in a greenhouse in 1972. Rapid action by the Division of Plant Industry (DPI) of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services eradicated *M. monilis* soon after it was detected, but detection was too late for *M. hemipterus* and *M. callizona*.

From: <http://bromeliadbiota.ifas.ufl.edu/wvbrom2.htm>

Introduction to Scale Insects

By: Avas B. Hamon

Division of Plant Industry,
Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer
Services (FDACS)

Scale insects are the super family Coccoidea of the insect order Homoptera. About 5,000 species of them have been described. The scale insects are minute to small, highly specialized, and generally spend their entire life near the spot where they hatched. All of their forms that possess legs have one-segmented or two-segmented tarsi, bearing a single claw. Females are always wingless, but males may be winged (with one pair of wings) or wingless. Adult males have no functional mouthparts. First instars (crawlers) have functional legs and are very mobile, but later instars may be legless and sedentary. Immature stages and adult females feed on plant juices by inserting their long stylet mouthparts into a host plant and sucking out the juices.

Worldwide there are 21 families of scale insects. Margarodidae and Ortheziidae are considered "most primitive" because the females have abdominal spiracles and the males often have faceted eyes. The other families are considered "most advanced" because the adult females never have abdominal spiracles and the adult males have simple eyes. The 3 largest families are Diaspididae (armored scales), Pseudococcidae (mealybugs), and Coccidae (softscales). Generally scale insects are considered pests destructive to agricultural crops. However, some species can furnish useful products well known in commerce, such as shellac (from *Laccifer lacca*), cochineal red dye from (*Dactylopius coccus*), crimson lake, and other dyes. Some species produce wax of marketable value, such as Chinese wax which is used for candles. Jewelry is fashioned from some of the hard shelled margarodids. *Dactylopius* spp. have been used as biological control agents for *Opuntia* cacti in Australia, Ceylon, India, Hawaii, and Mauritius. More than half of the successful biological control projects in the world have been against scale insects. Even with these impressive figures scale insects are still horrendous pests of agriculture. It has been estimated that if they were left uncontrolled by natural means and chemicals their potential damage could reach several billions of dollars in the U.S. alone.



Scale insects attack all parts of plants from roots to buds, flowers, and fruits. Some are subterranean in habit. Some produce honeydew in great quantities, whereas others, such as Diaspididae (armored scales) do not produce the excretion. Some species cause galls to form on their hosts; others cause leaf rolling, surface pitting or other tissue changes. Other species cause disease-like symptoms by injecting irritating salivary products into the host plant. The dispersal of coccids on a plant or plants nearby is by the active first instar or crawler stage. Over longer distances some crawlers may be spread by wind, but generally the movement of infested plant material in commerce has been responsible for dispersal over long distances.

Hamon, A.B. 1998. Introduction to Scale Insects.
Published on WWW at:
<http://BromeliadBiota.ifas.ufl.edu/introscale.htm>

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Advertise in Orlandiana

Advertising space is now available in Orlandiana. The price for a business card advertisement is \$10.00 per month or \$100 for 12 months if paid in advance. See Steven Wagner or Betsy McCrory at the next meeting.

Cross Word Puzzle Answers

Across

3. fasciata
4. lindenii
5. weevil
7. Cyrptanthus
10. stolon
12. Eileen
15. Orthophytum
16. Vriesea
18. Bromeliad
19. bract
21. sixteen
22. Dyckia

Down

1. pyramidalis
2. utriculata
6. leaf
7. cultivar
8. xneomea
9. BSI
11. Neoregelia
13. shadehouse
14. Karen
17. scurf
19. Betsy
20. usneoides

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 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.

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.

President	Karen Andreas	karen@fcbs.org
Vice President	Bob Stevens	Use above address to contact officers
Secretary,	Betty Salvas	
Treasurer	Betsy McCrory	
Librarians	Phyllis Baumer	
	Sudi Hipsley	
FCBS Rep	Karen Andreas	
Editor	Steven Wagner	
Mailing	Betsy McCrory	



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Please send all correspondence to the address below:*



Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, Inc.
PO Box 536961
Orlando, FL 32853-6961
Address Correction Requested

June 2004

Next Meeting: Monday, June 28

Time: 6:30 pm Refreshments & Member Market
7:00 pm Meeting begins

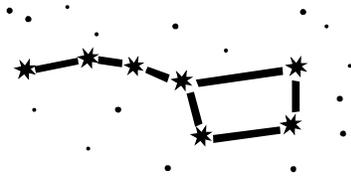
Speaker: Barbra Larson's

Program: Bromeliad Pests

Show & Tell: All members Orthopyhtum & other Bromeliads

Refreshments: L - M

Raffle Plants: All members



The Big Dipper hangs high in the northwest at nightfall these warm evenings. Bright Jupiter shines in the west, while Vega shines high in the east.