



Orlandiana

Newsletter of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

Volume No. 30

Issue No. 08

August 2004

Next Meeting: Monday, August 23, 2004

6:30 pm Refreshments

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

6:30-6:55 Member Market

7:00 Meeting Starts

This month's Program: Transporting Bromeliads & Bylaws and Standing Rules

Raffle Plants: All Members

Refreshments V -D

Show & Tell: *Cryptanthus* & Other Genera

President's Message

The dog days of August are upon us now and, while our bromeliads may enjoy the heat and humidity, it's important for us humans to take special care while working outdoors. Be sure to drink lots of water, wear sunscreen and mosquito repellent, and be aware of the effects heat may have on your body. Light-headedness, faintness, spots appearing before your eyes, clammy skin or shaking are indications that you may be heat sick. So take care, take it easy and remember to give yourself a break in air conditioning!

At our July meeting, members voted unanimously to have next year's Mothers Day Show and Sale at Fashion Square Mall. Florida Mall increased the rent for the space for next year, declined to provide signage or advertising and requires us to rent the tables again for the show. These costs seriously impact our ability to raise money for the non-profit groups we support with our annual donations. Both Fashion Square and Oviedo Marketplace offered space at no charge, agreed to provide tables, skirting and advertising, all at no charge. Oviedo Marketplace is still interested in hosting us for a future event. Since the July meeting, some members have expressed an interest in exploring the idea of a fall sale at Oviedo, perhaps next year.

At this month's meeting, we will be taking care of business. The Bylaws Review Committee provided you with proposed changes to our Bylaws and Standing Rules in the July newsletter. We will take up those proposals at this meeting. Feel free to make comments in advance to any member of the Bylaws Review Committee, Betty Salvias (chairman), Bob Stevens or Lee Missavage. We also will have news from the Bromeliad World Conference, held earlier this month, and on the upcoming state-wide sale and bromeliad get-together, the Extravaganza.

See you Monday!

Karen Andreas

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 invited members to visit the supply store, silent auction table, Members' Market and refreshment table.

New member Manny Grobstein was introduced and welcomed.

Bob Stevens and Herbert Henry led members in presenting their Show and Tell items. Bob also reminded members who bring plants for the raffle, door prizes or Members' Market to be sure to tag their plants. If not sure of the name, at least describe the flower produced, approximate size of the plant, etc. to aid in identification.

Bob Stevens introduced Michael Andreas who presented a program entitled "Bromeliads and the Digital Camera". Michael invited us to think about what digital camera is best, how much memory and how many pixels we would need for our individual use. Through a beautiful slide show of Michael's own photographs, he stressed the importance of patience and practice when taking digital photographs of bromeliads. Michael also displayed a black velvet backdrop of his own design.

At 7:55, Karen Andreas announced a ten-minute break.

Minutes – There being no discussion, Sudi Hipsley moved that the minutes of the June meeting be approved; Butch Force seconded the motion; and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report – Betsy McCrory reported that in the month of June BSCF received \$376.00 and disbursed \$424.13, for a remainder of \$2,101.39 in the checking account. The Wachovia Money Market Account received \$8.11 in interest for a balance of \$12,840.86. Cash on hand is \$35.00. Total assets are \$14,985.36.

New Business:

Florida Council – The Council met the previous week. Karen Andreas stated that all members will receive by mail a state-wide roster of members. The 2004 Extravaganza will be on October 24 in Largo, FL and will be hosted by the Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society. Information sheets will be available at the August meeting.

Mothers Day Show and Sale Location – This year, for the first time, the Florida Mall charged BSCF \$500 plus rental on the tables used in the Mothers Day Show and Sale and supplied no signage. Next year, the fee will go up to \$1,000. It is obvious the Florida Mall would rather not host our show.

BSCF has been approached by Oviedo Marketplace requesting that we have a show there. BSCF officers have also been in touch with Fashion Square Mall. Both malls offer the same terms: no fee, prime location, mall will supply tables, signage and staff to help set up. Fashion Square will advertise the show on the mall marquee. The officers of BSCF recommended the show not return to Florida Mall.

After discussion, Michael Andreas moved that the Mothers Day Show and Sale no longer be held at the Florida Mall; Herbert Henry seconded; and the members unanimously approved the motion.

Butch Force moved that the BSCF Mothers Day Show and Sale be relocated to Fashion Square Mall under the terms presented to Karen Andreas and Betsy McCrory; John Boardman seconded; and the members unanimously approved the motion.

Karen was asked to inquire whether the Fashion Square Mall would commit to the same terms for a five-year period and Karen will report the answer to that question at the next meeting. Karen also asked members to consider the possibility of having an additional sale at Oviedo Marketplace in the fall. This item will be discussed again at a later meeting.

Home & Garden Show – Jim Loepp advised that the Orchid Society has been offered free space at the Home & Garden Show at the Convention Center next Spring. The Orchid Society was asked to inquire whether other plant

societies would like to be included. Jim stated that over 50,000 people visit the show each year. Karen Andreas asked members to think about the possibility of participating in the Home & Garden Show and whether it should be in place of participating in the Leu Gardens sale. This item will be discussed again at a later meeting.

Bromeliad Book – Pam Flesher announced that Borders Books has offered a 20% discount to BSCF members on “Bromeliads for the Contemporary Garden”. This book normally sells for \$29.95, but will cost members a total of \$25.56 after tax. Pam collected payment from interested members and will buy the books during the upcoming week.

Next Meeting – Bob Stevens reminded members that they received the proposed Bylaw revisions with the July newsletter. Everyone is encouraged to write their questions and suggestions on their copy and be prepared to discuss the Bylaws at the August meeting. A short program by BSCF members will also be presented.

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

There being no further business to come before the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Salvas, Secretary

Welcome New Members

Manny Grobstein-Melbourne FL

Ginny & Carey Oliphant-Melbourne FL

For Those Feeling Wilted or Under the Bench

If you know of any BSCF member who is not feeling well, who is experiencing an illness or is in the hospital, we want to know about it. The Society will send a card on behalf of its members to any member who is unwell or who has experienced a death in the family. There will be a sheet of paper at the sign in desk if you want to write down the name of the member who could use a card; you can also notify Karen Andreas by email, karen@fcb.org. We care about all our members – please help us let them know!

Mark Your Calendar

August 21 & 22, Seminole Bromeliad Society Display & Sale, 9am – 4pm both days, Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Drive, Sanford

September 18 & 19, San Diego Bromeliad Society Show & Sale, Show times are 12pm - 4pm on Saturday & 10am – 4pm on Sunday. Balboa Park, Casa del Prado complex. Come get a look at the venue for the WBC 2006

October 23, 2004 Extravaganza, Hosted by Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society, Pinellas County Extension Office, Sales at the Florida Botanical Garden, Largo, Plant Auction will be at the Holiday Inn nearby.

Names Please

As Bob Stevens mentioned at the last meeting, a plant id is very important when bringing in plants for the raffle table. If you do not have a name for one of your bromeliads, bring it in for Show & Tell. There is a wealth of knowledge in our membership, somebody just might know the name of your mystery plant.



Commonly known as “Earth Stars,” the members of the genus *Cryptanthus* are true terrestrials; these bromeliads need soil to grow. *Cryptanthus* species are found in eastern Brazil where they grow in sun and shade, wet conditions and, sometimes dry, on the coast and in forests. First described in 1836, the name *Cryptanthus* comes from *crypt*, meaning “hidden” and “*anthos*” which means flower. *Cryptanthus* do not have inflorescences that extend above the leaves; the white flowers bloom from the center of the plant.



Cryptanthus beuckeri

Cryptanthus come in a surprising variety of colors and forms. Colors include brown, rose, green, chartreuse, gray, copper, pink, and red. Scurf – that dusty looking substance on the leaves – appears as silver or white stripes, chevrons or other markings. Examples of its various forms include *Crypt. microglazioui*, which we saw on the head table at this year’s show, *Cryptanthus beuckeri* with its spoon shaped leaves, *Cryptanthus lutherianus* which has long narrow leaves, *Cryptanthus* ‘Elaine,’ with its broad, long, leaves. There are small forms, long forms, cascading forms and twisted forms like *Cryptanthus* ‘Whirlygig’.

These terrestrials like to be on or near the ground. From our own growing experience, we’ve seen major improvements in *Cryptanthus* when we plant them in

the ground or sink the pot or simply place the pot on the ground. Provide them bright light such as morning light or filtered sunlight and you will be rewarded with strong color and good form. *Cryptanthus* do not have water tanks as their epiphytic bromeliad cousins do.



***Cryptanthus* ‘Elaine’**

Consequently, *Cryptanthus* depend on moisture from the potting media as well as from watering the leaves. Do use a potting media that drains well but does not stay soggy wet. Recently we started using capillary mats on the *Cryptanthus* bench in the shade house and have seen good results from providing a constant source of moisture.



***Cryptanthus* ‘Whirlygig’**

Do not under-pot these bromeliads. “If grown in pots, the pot should be wider than it is deep, as the root systems prefer to spread out rather than go downwards,” notes Andrew Steens in *Bromeliads for the contemporary garden*. Use a slow release fertilizer such as Nutricote in the soil mix when potting *Cryptanthus*. As true terrestrials, they absorb nutrition from their roots. Frost and cold winds are damaging, as you would expect in bromeliads from the forest floor. However, the



canopy of trees or other over story such as shrubs or a *Philodendron selloum* often provide enough *Cryptanthus lutherianus* protection. To be safe, be prepared to provide cover or move the *Cryptanthus* to a protected place in case of hard frost or freeze.

Removing pups from *Cryptanthus* is very easy. The pups will come from the base of the mother plant as well as from between the leaves. After the pup reaches about half the size of the mother plant, tug gently on one of its leaves. If the pup resists, do not force it to release. When it is ready, it will release easily. You may need to peel off the very small lower leaves so it will plant easily. Use a root stimulator such as RootTone to provide fungus protection and encourage root growth. You may also need to stake the *Cryptanthus* until its roots grow, often a slow process.

Cryptanthus lutherianus

Cryptanthus used as accent and companion plants in the landscape can have a quite an impact. Their colors and low growth habit provide a dramatic look in any garden.

If you would like to learn more about *Cryptanthus*, consider joining the *Cryptanthus Society* which publishes a Journal four times a year. The Photo Index of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies has many pictures of this terrestrial genus (<http://fcbs.org>).

(Cryptanthus Society: Carole Richtmyer, Secretary, 18814 Cypress Mountain Drive, Spring TX 77388, 281-350-6809. Individual Membership - \$20.)



Cryptanthus microglazioui



Cryptanthus ruthiae

Sources:

- Baensch, Ulrich and Ursula Baensch. *Blooming Bromeliads*. 1994.
- Padilla, Victoria. *Bromeliads*. 1973.
- Smith, Lyman B and Robert Jack Downs. *Flora Neotropica, Monograph No. 14, Part 3, Bromelioideae*. 1979.
- Smith, Lyman B. *The Bromeliaceae of Brazil*. 1955.
- Steens, Andrew. *Bromeliads for the contemporary garden*. 2003.

All Photos courtesy of The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, www.fcbs.org

What's In a Name?

by Wayne Guthrie, Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.

What's in a name? In the case of bromeliads, lots of information. Every bromeliad belonging to a recognized Species has a two-word scientific name, its Latin binomial. If variety and form are also identified, the name may grow to four words. Here is how it works when it is done correctly.

The first word is the genus. The first letter is always capitalized, and when used in a text, it is always italicized or underlined.

Examples: *Aechmea*, *Neoregelia*

For Species

The second word is the species, or specified epithet, and is supposed to be informative. The first letter is never capitalized, but when used in a text it is always italicized or underlined.

Examples: *Ananus nanus*, *Tillandsia baileyi*

If the plant has three names and var. separates the second from the third, it is a variety of a natural species. It is never capitalized, but it is always italicized or underlined.

Examples: *Nidularium billbergioides* var. *citrinum*, *Neoregelia concentrica* var. *plutonis*

If the plant has three names and cv. separates the second from the third, it is a cultivar, or cultivated variety, of a species. It is always capitalized, enclosed by single quotes and never italicized or underlined.

Examples: *Billbergia pyramidalis* cv. 'Kyoto', *Aechmea luddemanniana* cv. 'Mend'

Cultivar names are also sometimes used as a name for an undescribed species.

Example: *Neoregelia* 'Fireball'

Form Names are used by following the word forma or f. with a Latin word descriptive of the form. It is never capitalized and it is always underlined or italicized.

Examples: *Canistrum lindenii* forma *exiguum*, *Tillandsia fasciculata* var. *denispica* f. *alba*

For Interspecific Hybrids:

(crosses within the same species)

When an x separates any two names, it indicates that the first plant has been crossed with the second. The female or seed plant is always listed first and the male or pollen plant is listed second. If the names do not follow a name that is capitalized, then the cross was never given a hybrid name.

Examples: *Aechmea tessmannii* x *zebrina*, *Vriesea procera* x *cardinata*

When a hybrid has been named, the second word(s) following the genus name is the hybrid name, or collective epithet. Before 1959 hybrids were given Latin names and these are preceded by an x.

Examples: *Aechmea* x *morrisoniana*, *Vriesea* x *mariae*

Since 1958, hybrids have been named with a modern language word (or phrase of not more than three words). These names are always capitalized, but are not preceded by an x, and are not placed in quotation marks. **All hybrids which have the same parental combination** (this specific cross is called a grex) **have the same name.**

Examples: *Neoregelia* Fosperior, *Aechmea* Bert

Cultivar names are used to distinguish a single, specific selection out of the cross, or grex (a Latin word meaning flock or group). These names can be written in two different ways: the hybrid name (the grex name) enclosed in parenthesis, followed by the cultivar name in single quotes, or the letter g (for grex) after the hybrid name, followed by the cultivar name in single quotes.

Examples: *Neoregelia* (Fosperior) 'Morris Henry Hobbs', *Neoregelia* Fosperior g. 'Black Knight', *Aechmea* (Bert) 'Pickinny', *Aechmea* Bert g. 'Black Magic'

The one thing that determines how to write the name correctly is to know whether the plant is a hybrid or a cultivar. Because it is frequently impossible to know exactly if the hybridizer named the entire grex, or if the name was given to a specific plant out of the grex, it is becoming a more common practice to treat these types of hybrids and cultivars as if they were cultivars.

Examples: *Neoregelia* 'Fairy Paint', *Aechmea* 'Red Wing'

For Bigeneric Hybrids:

(crosses between two different genera)

An intergeneric cross is always preceded by an X. The first word is a contraction of the names of the crossed genera and the hybrid name is in modern language, capitalized and enclosed in single quotes.

Examples: X *Neomea* 'Stardust', X *Orthoanthus* 'What'

Additional Rules Well Worth Remembering:

- When the species name is in the form of an adjective, it must agree in Latin gender and plurality with the genus name.

Examples: *Aechmea fosteriana*, *Canistrum fosterianum*, *Cryptanthus fosterianus*

When the species name is a commemorative name, rules (The International Code Botanical Nomenclature) for species state that if the name ends in a vowel or the letters er, i is added; if the name ends in a consonant, ii is added.

Examples: *Tillandsia fosteri*, *Canistrum lindenii*

- Latinized names are not valid unless they are published with a Latin diagnosis and in combination with a generic name.
- If pronunciation of some bromeliad names seems difficult, the following may be helpful:

The accent for Latinized names with two syllables is on the first syllable; with words of several syllables, the accent is usually on the next-to-last syllable.

The quote that follows is from Nat DeLeon, BSI President (in 1984) and it is taken from **GRANDE MAGAZINE** Vol. 1, No. 3.

"It is also important that all printed matter dealing with bromeliads is properly written. This includes books, journals, bulletins, newsletters and nurserymen's listings. Like it or not, there is an established set of rules that we must live by. There can be no half-way measures about it. It is either totally correct or it is not correct at all. Affiliate societies can do a better job educating their members."

This article was first published in *Triangularis*, The Golden Triangle Bromeliad Society's Newsletter, Jan-Mar 1984, and most recently in *The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's*, July 2004 Newsletter

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.

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Treasurer	Betsy McCrory	
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August 2004

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7:00 pm Meeting begins

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Show & Tell: All members

Refreshments: V - D

Raffle Plants: All members