



FLORIDA COUNCIL
of
BROMELIAD SOCIETIES inc.
1981
Quarterly Newsletter.

This newsletter published quarterly by Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. and mailed February, May, August & November to all paid up members of those Bromeliad Societies in Florida which make up the Council. Non-members may subscribe for \$2.00 year. Make checks payable to: Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and mail to the cover address.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

CHAIRMAN: Ervin Wurthmann; 2010 Front St.; Valrico, Fl.

VICE CHAIRMAN: John Bollin; 153 Beach Rd; Sarasota, Fl. 33581

SECRETARY: Morris W. Dexter; 409 Bayview Drive; Bellair, Fl. 33516

TREASURER: Ms. Bernice Cornfield; 3316 NE 40 St.; Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33308

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY: Meets Holiday Park Social Annex; 844 NE 7th Ave.; Ft. Lauderdale, 3rd Monday ea. month, 7:30 p.m. - President: Wm. Frazel; 1060 Iroquois; Ft. Lauderdale, 33312. Vice Pres, Polly Pascal; Rec. Sec'y Carole Torrey; Corr. Sec'y, Virginia Loerke; Treas. Geo. Skiba-Piadlowski. Senior Rep. Bernice Cornfield, Jr. Rep. Wm. Frazel. Visitors welcome.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC. Meets: Dixie Village 1st Federal; 2700 S. Orange Ave., Orlando, Fla. President, Edw. Hall; 1111 Glen Garry Cir.; Maitland, Fl. 32751. Vice-Pres. Susan Murphy; Secretary, Dorothy McNulty; Treas. Thomas U. Lineham, Jr. Visitors welcome -- 4th Monday 7:30 p.m. Senior Rep; O.C. Branneky, Jr. Rep. Edw. Hall

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY: Meets Fortune Federal Bank; East Bay Dr.; Largo. President, Ellen Jay Peyton; 11445 7th St. East; Treasure Island, Fl. 33706. Vice Pres. Marjorie Weissman; Secretary, Helen Chipps; Treas. Douglas Edwards. Sr. Rep. Morris W. Dexter, Jr. Rep. Harry Luther -- Visitors Welcome - Fourth Thursday 7:30 p.m.

IMPERIAL POLK BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

President, Rose Schmidt; 525 Johnson Rd.; Auburndale, Fl. 33823

Vice President, Joe Maddison; Secretary, Martha English; Treas. Norton Agay

This first issue of the Quarterly Newsletter is mailed to you at an individual per copy cost of 26¢. If we are approved as a tax-exempt educational body, this cost will be reduced to 21½¢ per copy. Funding for this project is furnished by a contribution from your local society of \$1.00 per year for each paid-up member. Since 1981 membership rosters are not yet up to date for most societies, this first mailing is being made on the basis of the 1980 rosters. If you do not renew your society membership, you will not receive another issue. The next Newsletter will come out around May 1, in advance of the May shows, and will include a roster of all 1981 members of Florida bromeliad societies.

Except for one lead article, this publication will consist of strictly news of happenings around the state. For cultural instruction, attend your local society meetings. All Florida societies welcome visitors and new members. They also depend on your support at their shows, and especially the annual State Show, which is sponsored by your Florida Council.

Bulk mailing rates apply to mailings of over 200 pieces, therefore no individual copies will be mailed. Please report any change of address promptly either to your society or the newsletter return address, so as to spare us the added cost of return postage.

In the future, we hope to establish regular reporting of new hybrids registered and identifications at Selby identification center.

We will be interested in your reaction to this first issue.

THE DEATH OF A GARDEN

Thomas E. Seuss

Reprinted from the March-April, 1970 issue of The Bromeliad Society Journal

Thirteen long years ago my wife and I sold our house and extra large garden, so that we could develop a new kind of garden. The size of our new property would be small and our plants would go up instead of out. It would be easier to care for; we both worked, and with this type of planting we would have more time for our respective employers.

The lot was selected on a canal for maximum humidity, and the house and garden began. Forty different varieties of palms were selected--then the trees that had the least foliage. Bromeliads and orchids were added, not in pots, but fastened directly on to the trunks of the palms and trees. As the trees grew, so did the bromeliad collection. They spread over the ground, up the trunks, and out to the tips of the branches. Mulford Foster said last year I had more bromeliads per square foot than in any garden he had ever visited. Some 955 stepping stone formed patios hidden among plantings, while overhead there were branches covered so thickly with bromeliads you could see no bark. Garden clubs and societies occasionally held their meetings here because of the atmosphere that the plantings offered. The plants themselves became their programs.

As Fort Lauderdale expanded, our garden and waterway became a part of the growing city. My yard became more important to me, as the city moved far beyond us. It was a touch of South American jungle surrounded by traffic and stone. The canal was polluted, like most American streams, and clogged with debris and water hyacinths.

On December 13 I watched a city spray boat turn from the river and head in toward the canal. My hideaway garden at the far end would be their final destination. Two occupants sprayed the hyacinths as the boat moved slowly in my direction. As I turned away to go across town to my place of business, I thought of the book "Silent Spring". At the time I read it, I thought it

was simply a far-fetched fantasy.

The next day I noticed that all my bromeliads were covered with small black dots, the size of scale. In the evening each dot was encircled with a large yellow ring the size of a dime. The next day the ring was the size of a quarter. I called the Division of Plant Industry, a part of Florida's Department of Agriculture. They confirmed my suspicion that my whole garden had been covered with hyacinth spray, a weed killer that could not be neutralized. The following day all the Nidulariums were dead. Vrieseas, Guzmanias, Tillandsias, Aechmeas, Pitcairnia, Neoregelias, Hechtias in that order followed in the next few days. Bromelias and the others followed after that. In all, the total casualties will amount to about 2500 bromeliads, 1200 orchids, and all the supporting foliage. I expect in a few more days the 955 stepping stones will be the sole survivors.

Florida's elements are demanding. The garden that had survived torrential rains, droughts, chilly winters, and many hurricanes is dead because of the work of two careless men armed with a solution powerful enough to cause a real disaster in a matter of hours. In less than two hours, a garden that took 13 years to build was destroyed.

I am writing this hoping all growers will give some thought to the spray programs going on in their communities and perhaps ponder for just a minute at what a personal "Silent Spring" could mean to them.

Corpus Christi update: Next World Bromeliad Conference will be at the Bayfront Convention Center, Corpus Christi, Texas June 11/13, 1982. Theme of the Conference is: "Bromeliaceae Ole". There are rumors of a post-conference collecting trip to Mexico. Gen. Chairman is Mr. Claud Ward; 3513 Aransas; Corpus Christi, Texas, 78411.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - ERVIN WURTHMANN

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. held their regular quarterly meeting on January 17, 1981 at the residence of Carol Johnson, Longwood, with Seminole Bromeliad Society as host.

Placques honoring the three past Chairmen were presented to Michael McMahon, Nat DeLeon and Bob Puterbaugh.

All Affiliate Reps were in attendance with the exception of one Jr. Rep.

Bernice Cornfield, Treasurer, reports:

Previous Balance	\$2,400.00
Deposited	900.00
On Hand	\$3,300.00

Ellen Peyton, who is handling Grande refunds reports:

October Balance	\$3,157.12
Income, Sales	96.50
	<u>\$3,253.62</u>
Less Expense	296.18
Balance in Grande Acct.	<u>\$2,957.44</u>

Ellen reports she mailed out 598 refund/disposition letters and received 314 responses. Options of responses as follows:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|-----|
| 1. Donate subscription money | 23 | |
| 2. Receive add'l Grande copies | 92 | |
| 3. Refund | <u>199</u> | 314 |

A follow-up letter will be mailed to those who have not responded, but after February 15, 1981, Grande account is scheduled to be closed and further refunds handled by the regular treasury.

Newsletter: Carol Johnson reported that as soon as unanimous approval from all Council Societies is forthcoming, the first Newsletter will be published. It will be issued quarterly in the month following quarterly meetings of the Council, and will include reports of those meetings in addition to the news from the various societies, show news, and an annual

state membership roster. First issue will be mailed on basis of 1980 membership except for those societies which have their 1981 roster available. This will be strictly a newsletter and no cultural information will be included unless incorporated in the lead invitational article.

All member societies of the Council have voted to contribute \$1.00 per paid-up member to finance the Newsletter.

State Show: Fourth Florida International Bromeliad Show sponsored by the Florida Council will be held at Cypress Gardens, Winter Haven, on May 7, 8, 9, 10. Carl Perryn is Show Chairman and Imperial Polk Bromeliad Society is the host for this show. Actual show will be at the Cypress Gardens Quality Inn. Registration will be on May 7th. (Ed. Note: See Show page for complete details.).

Old Business: Mr. John Bollin moved that the Council purchase, blue, red, yellow and white award ribbons, without date or place, not to exceed \$300.00 to be used for State Shows. Motion was carried. Rosettes will be purchased by the host society.

Nat DeLeon made a motion that state sponsored shows use as judges only those who have passed the judging school course. Motion carried.

New Business: Ervin Wurthmann and Harry Luther have developed a plan to landscape a 40 x 100 foot area at Selby Gardens, near the conservatory, featuring bromeliads. Mr. Wurthmann plans to use collected driftwood, but it will be necessary to purchase feather rock for implementation of the plan. An estimate of the total cost will be submitted at the next Council meeting. Chas. Braneky moved that the council approve the project subject to final cost.

Meeting Adjourned:::::Next quarterly meeting (April) will be at the Cypress Gardens Quality Inn with Imperial Polk Bromeliad Society as host.....

Society News

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY:

Reporter: Bernice Cornfield

Steve McMillan will be in charge of the program at the February meeting. Eloise Beach will be visiting in March, and Jeffry Kent is tentatively scheduled to travel from California for the April program. Librarians Marion Ricker and Elizabeth Loos report additions of three Lyman Smith monographs and David Benzings's new book to the library collection.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA:

Reporter O. C. Branneky.

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida derives most of its income from the sale of donated plants. At the February meeting, purchase of plants from the bargain table will entitle purchaser to a chance on a special raffle plant. Raffle plant will be donated by Carol Johnson. Planning continues for the annual bromeliad display and plant sale Palm Sunday week-end at the Winter Park Mall as part of Central Florida Annual Orchid Show. The society's own show will be in a new location this year, the Winter Park Mall instead of Altamonte Mall. It is planned for September and this year will include commercial booths as well as the member plant sales and judged show. Librarian Chas. Schraudner reports that with the acquisition of the latest Lyman Smith monograph on bromeliodeae, all 3 of the monographs are now in the library.

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

Morris W. Dexter, Reporter

Harry Luther, West Coast Society member, Junior Rep. to the Florida Council and taxonomist (bromeliads) at Selby Gardens, has published two articles recently:

1. A new species of *Tillandsia* from Columbia.
Vol. 46, Oct. 1980, #7, page 419, *Phytologia*.
2. A new streptocalyx from eastern Equador. See the *Journal of the Bromeliad Society*, Nov-Dec. 1980, page 256.

IMPERIAL POLK BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

Carl Perryn, Reporter

Ms. Rose Schmidt has become the new society president with the resignation of Bob Puterbaugh. The society is busy with work on the Florida International Bromeliad Show, which it will host at Cypress Gardens. Ads will appear in the March/April Florida Gardener, also in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society for March/April.

JACKSONVILLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

Tinker Musleh, Reporter

An auction was held at the January meeting at which over \$200.00 was raised for the purpose of purchasing Dr. Lyman Smith's monographs plus any other books the funds would cover.

February program: Al Muzell "Bromeliads as a Landscape Plant"

March Program: Laurel Stone of Bromeliad Society of Central Florida - "Cryptanthus"

Ed. Note & Correction: Cover shows Nick Ciccarello as the Senior Affiliate Rep to Florida Council. Nick is actually the Alternate Junior Rep for Larry Key, the new society president and Tinker Musleh is the Senior Affiliate Representative.

SARASOTA BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

Vicky Chirnside & R. L. Smith, Reporters

Big news from Sarasota is the January temperatures, which were in the teens and devastated many outdoor bromeliad plantings. Vicky report 18 degrees for a sustained period at her home in Venice and some low-lying areas are rumored to have registered 10 degrees. A group of Sarasota members are working on plans for a collecting trip to Honduras or Equador. More on this project in the next Quarterly.

SEMINOLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

Carol Johnson, Reporter

Seminole Bromeliad Society now meets at the new Seminole County Agriculture Center in Sanford. In the old quarters 25 members present pre-empted the sale and display tables. We now have seating facilities for 200, and consequently have revised our by-laws to make

membership open to all. New annual dues are \$4.00 for a family membership. We are the only society which has a day-time meeting, the 3rd Sunday afternoon of each month. The daytime meeting is designed to make it easier for East Coast and Lake County people to attend. Big news in the Seminole County area is the January cold, with 12 and 14 degrees common and below freezing temperatures sustained for as much as twelve hours.

In lieu of a regular meeting, in March, Seminole members will enjoy a field trip to Canaveral National Seashore Park, south of Turtle Mound, New Smyrna. The park reportedly suffered no damage to native tillandsias from the January cold.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA:

Connie Johnson, Reporter.

Helen Conner has retired as newsletter editor and the job has been taken on by Connie Johnson and Linda Evans. Dean Fairchild will be Chairman of the Annual Bromeliad Show at Fairchild Gardens May 17-18, 1981. Marie Sherr, Awards Chairman for the show, is anxious to hear from anyone who wishes to sponsor an award for the show. \$25.00, \$30.00 and \$35.00 awards are available and the sponsor's name will appear in the schedule and on the rosette. Individuals as well as business firms may sponsor awards. If interested, contact her soon, as the schedule must go to the printers before long. Address: A. Marie Scherr; 6789 SW 122nd Dr.; Miami, Fl. 33156.

Mailing address for Bromeliad Society of South Florida is 13075 SW 60 Ave.; Miami, Fl. 33156.

BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY:

Roland Schnabel, Reporter.

The program for the February meeting was given by Steve Belser, on "Native Florida Bromeliads".

The Guild has installed and is maintaining a bromeliad display at the Tampa State Fair, February 4 thru 15.

The Guild is presenting a Bromeliad Show, Display and Plant sale on April 10-12, 1981 at the University Square Mall; 2200 E. Fowler Avenue; Tampa. See the Show Schedule.

Mr. Norman Pettigrew, Newsletter Editor, is interested in establishing a Bulletin Exchange with all Florida Bromeliad Societies. His address is 2115 Oakhill Drive; Valrico, Fl. 33594.

SEND US YOUR LOGO- - - -

Send us a good, reproduceable copy of your society logo, along with the history of how it came to be. We hope to print one in each issue. This time, we salute Imperial Polk, one of our smallest societies, which has taken on the biggest job, hosting the State Show - - - -



IMPERIAL POLK
BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Show Calendar

April 10-12, 1981 Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay.
Show and Sales at University
Square Mall; 2200 E. Fowler;
Tampa, Florida. Judged Bromeliad
Show.

May 8-10, 1981 Florida International Bromeliad
Show. See full page announcement
this issue.

May 16-17, 1981 Bromeliad Society of South Florida
Annual Standard Bromeliad Show.
Show Chairman Dean Fairchild,
10045 SW 166 St.; Miami 33157.
Commercial & Member plant sales.
\$3.00 admission to Fairchild
Tropical Gardens (site of show)
to non-members.

Participating:

April 16-19, 1981 Bromeliad Society of Central
Florida will participate in the
annual Palm Sunday week-end show
of Central Florida Orchid Society
with a Bromeliad display and
plant sales.

NORTH OF THE BORDER:

December Election of BSI Directors.

Of 367 total votes, Florida members cast the most,
with 94 votes. Directors elected from Florida for
1981-83 term were Eloise Beach and Nat DeLeon. These
two, plus Ervin Wurthmann and Morris Dexter, give
Florida four directors in BSI.

Baton Rouge Show:

The 1981 Baton Rouge show will be held on April 25-
26, 1981. They are announcing the dates at this time
to avoid conflict with other shows in the area.

Atlanta Bromeliad Show: June (?) See next issue.

The Florida International Bromeliad Show

- AT: The Quality Inn, Cypress Gardens, Winter Haven, Florida.
- ON: May 7/10, 1981. Registration of plants on May 7, from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. Judging will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. on May 8. Show will open to the public following completion of judging.

The show will be held in the ballroom at the Quality Inn, with commercial and society sales held in a large tent located in the parking lot.

Special rates at Quality Inn during show:

Single, \$27.00; Double, \$30.00. Children 16 and under with both parents free in the room--with one parent at the double price.

CUT OFF DATE FOR RESERVATIONS IS APRIL 22, 1981 --

For reservations: Quality Inn
Cypress Gardens
P. O. Box 7
Cypress Gardens, Fl. 33880

Telephone: 813-324-5950.

Special rates to the Gardens, \$5.60 for adult, children 6 to 11, \$3.15, 12 and older charged as adult. Under 6 free. Special behind-the-scenes tours of the greenhouses in the Gardens. For those staying at the Quality Inn, you may go in to the Gardens as many times as you wish while the show is in progress, with the purchase of just the one ticket. Those coming to the show for a day by car or by the bus-load, will be eligible for the special rates to the Gardens. You must show proof of membership, either to your local bromeliad society or to the BSI.

You do not have to purchase tickets to the Gardens to see the bromeliad show.

Competition is open to all bromeliad growers, subject to the rules of the Show Committee.

Commercial space rental, \$175.00 - no commission.

DID YOU KNOW ????

1. The Bromeliad Judging School, sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and directed by Ervin Wurthmann, will this summer graduate in excess of fifty (hopefully) qualified bromeliad judges. Two schools (6 sessions each) were run - one in Tampa and one in Miami. Both were instructed by Valerie Steckler of New Orleans. Final exams will be in late spring.
2. Your society president has a complete listing of Florida people who have signed up to participate in the Speakers Bureau, which is also sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.
3. Selby Gardens, 800 South Palm Avenue; Sarasota, is the official bromeliad identification center for U.S. Harry Luther, taxonomist, urges you to send him botanical specimens of bromeliad species for identification (no hybrids or bi-generics, please). Send to him, care of the Selby address. If the plant is small, send the whole plant, complete with inflorescence. If too large, a complete leaf and the spent inflorescence will suffice. If you are not a member of Selby Gardens, identification will cost \$5.00 each. Members receive two courtesy identifications. He must have a bloom spike. Hint: If the plant is one of a kind, wait until you have removed at least one pup for yourself.

JACKSONVILLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY: Meets: Agric. Extension Learning Center; 1010 N. McDuff; Jacksonville; 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Visitors Welcome
President; Larry Key; 3134 W. 19th St.; Jacksonville 32205. Vice Pres. Nick Ciccarello;
Secretary, Tinker Musleh; Treasurer, Lionel Carter.
Senior Rep. Nick Ciccarello Jr. Rep. Tinker Musleh

SARASOTA BROMELIAD SOCIETY: Meets Selby Gardens. Visitors Welcome.
President, Vicky Chirnside; Vice Pres. James Jones; Rec. Sec'y Patsy Worley; Corr. Secy
Jos. Halton; Treas. Bill Sexson. Senior Rep. John Bollin; Jr. Rep. Vicky Chirnside.
Visitors Welcome.

SEMINOLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY: Meets Seminole Ag. Center; Hwy 17-92; Sanford, Fl.
Third Sunday, 2:30 p.m. Visitors Welcome. President, Edw. McNulty; 2826 Conway Gardens
Rd.; Orlando 32806; Vice Pres. Carol M. Johnson; Sec'y Joyce Ossowski; Treas. James
Stoll. Senior Rep. Carol M. Johnson; Jr. Rep. Edw. McNulty.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA: Meets Fairchild Gardens; Old Cutler Rd. Miami, Fl.
First Tuesday, 8:00 p.m. Visitors Welcome. President, Don Yetkow; 12225 SW 63 Ave.;
Miami, Fl. 33156. Vic-Pres. John Hammel; Secretary, Nancy Steinmetz; Treas. Jack Ford.
Senior Rep. Nat DeLeon, Jr. Rep. Kerry Herndon

BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY: Seminole Garden Center; 5800 Central Ave.; Tampa, Fl.
Third Monday 7:30 p.m. Visitors Welcome. President, Roland Schnabel; 5106 127th Ave.;
Tampa, 33617. Vice Pres. Linnie Yarbrough; Sec'y Jean Schnabel; Treas. Gary DeFranco.
Senior Rep. Ervin Wurthmann; Jr. Rep. Roland Schnabel.