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FLORIDA GOUNGIL 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, Jos. McAllister; Secretary, Martha English; Treas. Norton Agey Sr. Rep. Carl Perryn; Jr. Rep. Rose Schmidt. Visitors Welcome HOW LUCKY!! We have come up with an extra page. This gives us a chance to wish one and all a Merry Christmas & a Happy, Happy 1982, from your 1981 Representatives to the Florida Council.

They are:

Bromeliad Society of Broward County, Ms. Albert Corn, ield and William Frazel

<u>Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society</u>, Terry and Roberta Virta.

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, O. C. Branneky and Edw. Hall.

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society, Dr. Morris W. Dexter and Harry Luther.

Imperial Polk Bromeliad Society, Carl W. Perryn and Rose Schmidt.

<u>Jacksonville Bromeliad Society</u>, Nick Ciccarello and Tinker Musleh.

Sarasota Bromeliad Society, John Bollin and Vicky Chirnside.

Seminole Bromeliad Society, Carol Johnson and Ed McNulty.

Bromeliad Society of South Florida, Nat DeLeon and Kerry Herndon.

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Ervin Wurthmann and Roland Schnabel.

Library Special

This issue 4, Volume I, 1981 features a listing of known and/or available printed matter on the subject of bromeliads. At this time of year, thoughts turn to buying Christmas gifts, and what better fills the bill than a bromeliad book? No space is given to books written by "armchair" experts. We have probably overlooked some excellent material, but, if so, it is thru ignorance and not intent. Nearly all of our Florida Bromeliad Societies have a bromeliad library. Before buying any of the books reviewed or listed, it would be well to examine those in your library to determine what you really want.

FLORA NEOTROPICA-Monograph 14, Parts I, II, III.
Part I, Pitcairnioideae, \$39.95; Part II, Tillandsiodeae, \$45.00; Part III, Bromelioideae, \$65.00. Add \$1.00 postage on all. By Lyman B. Smith & Robt. J. Downs; order from New York Botanical Gardens, Publications Office; Bronx, N. Y. 10458.

Reviewed by Bud Martin

Bromeliad lovers the world over breathed a sigh of relief in 1974 when Part I of Dr. Lyman B. Smith's long-awaited monograph of the Bromeliaceae was finally off the press. Now, perhaps, a semblance of order would be restored to the Bromeliaceae, a plant family long neglected in printed word by the world's botanists. Mez had monographed the Bromeliaceae as recently as 1934-35, but much newly discovered plant material necessitated more than a few changes, including reorganization in the system used by Mez which insures the casual student of these plants easier study. Publication of Part III in 1979 completes the monograph.

It is wise to keep a copy of "The Bromeliad Glossary", published by BSI at your elbow when working with the monographs, for you will encounter unfamiliar words or

terms from time to time.

One of the most outstanding features of this monograph is the extensive use of line drawings and sketches of floral parts--all three books are richly illustrated. And a bonus for "in the field" collectors or anyone planning a trip to the tropics is Dr. Smith's generous use of maps showing geographic distribution of the plants. All three books are soft covered.

THE BIOLOGY OF THE BROMELIADS by David H. Benzing. 1980 \$14.40 including postage. Mad River Press; Rt. 2 - Box 151B; Eureka, Ca. 95501.

Reviewed by Geoffrey C. Johnson

Dr. Benzing has given us the first real study on the bromeliads that can be used by both the biologist and the layman grower.

Some of this text is probably beyond many hobby growers because of the chemistry and physics involved in plant growth and nutrition. There is, however, a wealth of information available to all growers on plant nutrition, seed growth, plant flowering characteristics and an exceptional chapter on techniques for the bromeliad grower. I recommend this book to anyone interested in what makes your bromeliads do all those things the grower is concerned about to culture quality bromeliads.

BROMELIADS by Werner Rauh (a translation)\$45.00. Published in Dorset, England, but it can be ordered thru most bookstores.

Dr. Rauh is a topmost authority on the genus tillandsia and in that regard this book is unsurpassed. To my notion, it is notably weak on all the other bromeliads. The use of an abbreviation key is maddening, but the book is worthwhile because of the tillandsia section and the many beautiful illustrations.

The following books are available thru the Bromeliad Society, Inc. Most were published by them:

"Bromeliads - A Cultural Handbook" 3.50 "A Glossary for Bromeliad Growers" (and for owners of Monograph 14) 3.50 "Bromeliads" by Walter Richter (Translation) 3.50 "Checklist of Bromeliad Hybrids" 3.50 "Bromeliads" by Victoria Padilla, 1973. The primer and most referred to of all bromeliad books. Also was required reading for the judging course. 13.50 "The Colorful Bromeliads" by Victoria Padilla. New, and a photographic supplement to 1973 book. Address The Bromeliad Society, Inc.; P. O. Box 41261; Los Angeles, Ca. 90041. Postage is included in price.

REED HERBARIUM PUBLICATIONS

"Cumulative Index to the Bulletin and Journal of the Bromeliad Society, Vol. I thru XXX, 1951-1980" NEW "Notes on Bromeliaceae 1953-1971" *
"Bromeliaceae of Brazil" *
"Bromeliaceae of Columbia" *
"Studies in the Bromeliaceae, 1930-1954" *
*by Lyman B. Smith, compiled by Clyde F. Reed.
Much of the above material is in Latin. For information and prices write:

Reed Library & Herbarium 10105 Harford Road Baltimore, Md. 21234

The Journal of the Bromeliad Society, Inc. is the regular publication of the society and mailed to all members. Those who pay membership fees, let us say, in July, will receive the "Journal" for the entire year. The six issues per year are worth in excess of the \$15. membership fee. Binders for back issues of The Journal also available. Each binder holds 12 issues, and sells for \$6.00 postpaid. Order from Leslie Walker; 520 N. Juanita; Redondo Beach, C. 90277. Make checks payable to Bromeliad Society. Back issues of The Journal are available from time to time. Check with The Bromeliad Society as to which ones are on hand.

The following books are <u>out of print</u> but should be in your Society library. All are worthwhile and many are valuable collectors items:

"Brazil, Orchid of the Tropics" by Mulford & Racine Foster "Bromeliads in Cultivation" Vol. I. by Bob & Catherine Wilson, 1963. This book was required reading for the judging school course just completed.

"The Bromeliads" - Paintings by Margaret Mee & Text by Lyman B. Smith. 1969.

"Bromeliads in Color" by Victoria Padilla, 1966. Excerpts from the Journal, hardback and with color illustration.

Auestionaire

The questionaire published in issue 3 of the Quarterly produced some interesting data. Ten percent of our members responded, which was disappointing tome, but I have been told that was an unusually good response. Here are the results:

1. How many years have you been a member of a Bromeliad society? 36% for 4 yrs. or less; 64%, 5-18 years.

2. How did you become interested in bromeliads?
Thru friends, 36%; shows, 24%; reading 16%; thru studying native Florida plants, 12%; business, 8%; as companions to orchids, 4%.

3. 3% said they were beginners; 42% amateurs; 42% serious collectors and 13% commercial. One claimed

to be an amateur becoming serious.

4. 58% are members of other plant societies.

5. Neoregelias were the favorite bromeliad for 40%; Vriesea/Tillandsia came second with 25%; 21% loved 'em all. The rest of the genera did very poorly.

6. This question was regarding program topics. Surprisingly, many requested programs on the pitcairnioideae family. 2. Sick plant clinic as a regular feature. 3. Hybridizing. 4. Field trips. 5. Native Florida bromeliads. 6. Plant Identification. One person stated that a knowledgeable speaker was more important than the subject. Strangely enough, cultural requirements came last, which probably means our members now know how to grow and have switched their interest to what to grow.

The balance of the questions were concerning bromeliad shows. Statistics are surprising:

- 7. 83% participate in shows; 79% exhibit; 46% sell.
- 8. 41% prefer competetive judging; 59% merit judging.
- 9. 27% favored open competition; 73% favored separate section for commercial growers.
- 10. 57% thought show judges should exhibit in a separate section. However, many did not answer this question.
- 11. 67% were in favor of limiting show entries, with maximum numbers ranging between 20 and 30.
- 12. Nine of our members expressed an interest in becoming a bromeliad judge.

Judging School

Approximately 50 Florida student judges, having completed all five sessions of the Bromeliad Judging School sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, took their final exams in Tampa and Miami the week-end of November 7-8, 1981. Judge's Certificates will be presented to those who qualify at the World Conference

in Corpus Christi next summer.

Five full day sessions were required to complete the judging course. Classes met in Tampa and Miami. Show procedures and organization, judging ethics, plant identification and cultural standards were fully covered. Each session was capped off by actually judging plants. In addition to completing the course and passing the exam, each candidate must have judged two bromeliad shows and won three blue ribbons in competition to qualify for the judge's certificate.

Many thanks are due to Ms. Valerie Steckler of New Orleans (and now of Austin, Tx.) for taking time from her busy life to come to Florida to teach the course.

The moving force behind the judging school is the Council's 1981 Chairman, Ervin Wurthmann. He introduced the project to the Florida Council in 1979, organized and kept it moving from that time until completion. Thanks to him and the Florida Council, Florida will have the largest number of certified bromeliad judges in the country. Among his many accomplishments in the bromeliad community, Mr. Wurthmann can be especially proud of this one.

B. I. C. Update Harry Luther

We wish to thank the following recent contributors to the Selby Bromeliad Identification Center: Jim & Ann Mann; Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay; Bromeliad Society of South Florida; Hazel M. Quilhot; Alice Brown; Sarasota Bromeliad Society; Seminole Bromeliad Society and Southwest Texas Bromeliad Guild.

I have recently returned from a trip to Ecuador and Peru, spending from September 23 thru October 19 there. There I worked to complete collections needed for a monograph of the genus Tillandsia, subgenus phytarrhiza of Ecuador. This monograph will include taxonomic drawings of entire plants, showing the habitat taken from living plant collections. The monograph should be very useful to hobbyists.

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OMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

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The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. met at the home of Mr. & Ms. Albert Cornfield in Ft. Lauderdale on Saturday, Oct. 10. After viewing the beautiful gardens & magnificent home and partaking of a delicious lunch, the meeting was convened.

Treasurer Bernice Cornfield reported \$2,043.15 in the treasury. All societies except Florida West Coast

have paid their assessment for the Quarterly.

"Grande": At the last meeting Grande account was in the red \$150.00. Ellen Peyton reports it is now \$150.00 in the black. Decision was made that henceforth "Grande" will be sold at commercial rates only. The magazines have been assembled in parcels containing:

100 copies of Issue I 300 copies Issue III 200 copies of Issue II 300 copies Issue IV Each of these parcels containing 900 copies will be sold for \$300.00. Seven such parcels have been assembled at this date. One parcel has already been sold and two additional parcels committed. Therefore, four parcels are still available.

Newsletter: Carol Johnson reported that 1981 expense of the Quarterly to date is \$715.15, and about \$160.00 will be required to finish the year. Bulk postage rates have increased twice in 1981. Carol reported on the results of the questionaire carried in issue 3. Results will be published in #4.

Selby Gardens Landscape Update: This project is the Chairman's project of the year. All plants and other materials are on hand with the exception of the Neo. fireballs. These are promised and will be forthcoming shortly. As soon as Harry Luther returns from Ecuador the work on the landscaping project will be completed within a week.

Bromeliad Library Project: Your Chairman suggested that the Council send Racine Foster a letter requesting her permission to reproduce rare and pertinent material from the Foster library of rare bromeliad material.

BIC: There was much discussion concerning means whereby BIC could be funded on a broader basis particularly with support from the BSI. The actual sum Mr. Luther receives from his work in identification is very small. Most of his salary derives from his employment by Selby Gardens in other capacities. Approximately 8-10 hours a week are spent on actual plant identification. SEE BIC UPDATE.

Other Business: Finalization of the Judging School. Final exam will be given November 7 & 8, Tampa and Miami. Teacher Valerie Steckler wants to present all the diplomas at the World Conference in Corpus Christi. It is estimated in excess of 40 people will qualify.

Pursuant to mention in the last Quarterly of the Council's intention to adopt a new logo, a proposed new logo was submitted by James Stoll of the Seminole Bromeliad Society. It was the consensus that the members have an opportunity to see additional examples before chosing an official one.

Delegates were asked how many meeting a year should be held by the Council. Answers varied from two to four. No action was taken.

Date of the next Florida International Bromeliad Show was discussed. Spring shows offer a better opportunity to display bloom, whereas Fall shows feature plants with striking foliage. An advantage of a Fall show is that in the cooler areas many plants which have suffered frost damage have had an opportunity to recover. Carl Perryn favored a Fall show. John Bollin, representative from Sarasota where the show will be, said his society favored having the show co-incide with the regular Council meeting in October 1982.

1982 Officers: The bylaws specify that new officers of the Council assume their formal duties at the end of the final (October) meeting of the year. This gives little time for transition, especially with the reps spread throughout the state. A motion was made and carried that the by-laws be waived so the present officers could continue for remainder of the year in order to complete tasks already underway.

Nat DeLeon presented a list of commercial growers in Florida which was published in the first issue of "Grande". He requested that each of the reps try to have an updated list from their area for the January 1982 meeting. He also inquired about the availability of a new supplier of pot rings. There was a suggestion that the Council sponsor the sale of this item.

Tinker Musleh of the Jacksonville Society, who is in charge of the slide library project showed a sample of an attractive kit which folded and carried like a hard-cover book, but which contained voice tapes and slides for an entire program and is easily mailable.

Representatives of nine Florida societies attended this meeting. Bromeliad Society of Central Florida was the only absentee, but Seminole reps. will report to them. The newest society, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society of Ft. Myers was represented by Terry and Roberta Virta. Next meeting of the Florida Council will be held January 1982 in Orlando. At that time, in the regular rotation schedule, Sarasota will furnish the Council Chairman; Florida West Coast the Vice-Chairman; Broward the Secretary and Seminole the Treasurer.



LOGO - Seminole Bromeliad Society. Logo was designed by member James Stoll. It features an Indian arrowhead on which is superimposed the official plant of the society, Florida's native Tillandsia balbisiana. Seminole Bromeliad Society meets the 3rd Sunday of each month, 2:30 p.m. at the Ag Center in Sanford.

CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

November program - Field trip to Hartman's in Palmdale.

Program by Bob Hartman.

December 6 - Christmas party at home of Dr. & Ms. Sam Smith.

January 17 - "Landscaping with Bromeliads" by Peggy

The society will have a display at the Lee County Garden Council's Flower Show on December 12-13. Peggy Bailey is

chairman of the project.

Florida Council welcomes this new society to the Council. There are now 10 member societies. In line with the policy of the Quarterly, each member of the new society will receive all 4 issues of the 1981 Volume I. Please note that the roster has been updated to include the Caloosahatchee members. The society meets the 3rd Sunday of each month, 2 p.m., at the First Federal S & L, North Ft. Myers. Present officers of the society are: Victor Yingst, President; Frank Cornelison, Vice Pres.; Mary McKenzie, Secretary; Dr. Wm. Davis, Treasurer. Newsletter editor is Gene McKenzie. Council reps are Terry & Roberta Virta. Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society has received its charter as an affiliate of BSI.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA:

Everyone connected with the September show in the Winter Park Mall is happy with the success of the show. 279 plants were entered for competition and since it was not neo season, the entries were quite varied. Society plant sales grossed \$3,100.00 and all the commercial sellers expressed satisfaction. See Show page for winners. Beginning January, 1982, the society will meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m., at the Shuffleboard Court bldg. (across the street from Bob Carr Auditorium. There is plenty of parking and ample meeting space. Speaker for the November meeting will be John Bollin of Sarasota, who will show slides of his Honduras collecting trips. He will bring some of the plants he collected.

JACKSONVILLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

November program: "Growing Bromeliads from Seed" by Bud Martin of Sanford. Mr. Martin operates Blossom World Bromeliads and grows thousands & thousands of bromeliads from seed.

The society will kick off the Florida 1982 bromeliad show season by putting on the first show on May7-9. See the show page for details.

SEMINOLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY:

The November meeting featured plants in Pitcairnioideae family with show and tell and discussion. The society will host Bromeliad Society of Central Florida at a covered dish Christmas dinner on December 20 at its new meeting place, Seminole Ag Center. January 1982 meeting will feature Bud Martin on "Growing Bromeliads from Seed".

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA:

November program was on cold weather care of bromeliads. December 1 - Christmas Party.

January 5, 1982: Program speaker will be Dr. John Utley. The society will be putting on a display at Fairchild Tropical Gardens for their annual "Ramble" event of December 5-6, 1981. This function attracts thousands of people. BSSF member Bob Taro heads the display committee. He was also in charge of this project last year and the display caused a sensation and stimulated tremendous interest in bromeliads.

BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY:

The guild had a successful 3 day sale at East Lake Mall on October 16-18.

November 16 program: Ervin Wurthmann "Genetics and Hybridization".

December 13, Christmas dinner party, University Inn. The dinner will replace the regular meeting and will include a plant exchange, a special program and presentation of the Ervin Wurthmann Distinguished Service Award to individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the Guild. Prior recipients includ Art VanHyning in 1979 and Henry Rahmlow in 1980.

PLEASE NOTE: Nearly all the societies are in the process of electing new officers for 1982. Rather than listing the several we now have, a complete list of new officers will be shown inside the cover of the first 1982 issue of the Quarterly.

- May 7-9, 1982 "Bromeliaflora" at Orange Park Mall,
 Jacksonville. Presented by the Jacksonville
 Bromeliad Society. A judged show, with commercial
 sales and exhibits, membership sales, educational
 exhibits and auctions. For specific information
 write Tinker Musleh; Rt 2 Box 400K; Melrose,
 F1. 32666. This will be the first standard show
 put on by the Jacksonville Bromeliad and the
 first bromeliad show of the 1982 season. Your
 participation and support will be appreciated.
- May 15-16, 1982 Annual South Florida Bromeliad Show at Fairchild Gardens, Miami.
- June 10-13, 1982 World Bromeliad Conference at Bayfront Plaza; Corpus Christi, Texas. Seminar
 speakers (in alpha order) will be David Benzing,
 Amy Jean Gilmartin, Harry Luther, Edward McWilliams; Tony Novac, Herb Plever, Werner Rauh,
 Lyman Smith, Valerie Steckler, John Utley, Lee
 Ward and Ervin Wurthmann. Commercial sales booths
 are still available. The Conference will be dedicated to the memory of Charles A. Wiley.
- September-October, 1982. Two shows during this period.

 The Florida International Bromeliad Show will be held at Selby Gardens in Sarasota and the annual Fall show of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida. Dates are forthcoming.
- Winners in Bromeliad Society of Central Florida's

 "Bromeliifest" of September 27-29, 1981:

 Best in Show Ananas comosus Jim Pearce

 Sweepstakes, Jim Pearce. He also won ten of the top awards. With 17 entries, he was awarded 16 blue ribbons. Congratulations, Jim! Other winners were: Best Neo. by Ed & Dot McNulty; Best Other Pitcairnioideae, Ed & Dot McNulty, Best Vriesea, Ron & Carolyn Schoenau; Best Pitcairnioideae, Ed & Dot McNulty. Best in Judge's Challenge Class was won by Virginia Loerke of Miramar.

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.