

FLORIDA COUNCIL of BROMELIAD SOCIETIES INC. Newsletter

This Newsletter published by Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. & mailed to all paid up members of those Bromeliad Societies of Florida which make up the Council. Non-members may subscribe for \$2.00 per year.

Make checks payable to:

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

Mail to:

Carol Johnson, Editor at cover address

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VOLUME IX - ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER 1989

I N M E M O R I A M

James V. Elmore

James V. Elmore, 46, 4807 Fifth St. W., Bradenton, died Sept. 23, 1989.

He was born in Bradenton and was a free-lance photographer.

Survivors include a sister, Shannon E. Melton of Bradenton; and a brother, David of Bradenton.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Fogartyville Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to All Children's Hospital, 801 Sixth St. S., St. Petersburg 33701. Shannon Funeral Home is in charge.

A newspaper obituary leaves so much unsaid. It is all there, yet it is as though no real person is involved. James Elmore contributed so much to the Florida bromeliad scene, and then far beyond. Bromeliad growers all over the world cherish Elmore neoregelia hybrids and covet those they do not have. There are many bromeliad lovers who were converted to the hobby thru GRANDE MAGAZINE, a creation 90% James Elmore.

I first met Jim in 1977 when he attended a Florida Council meeting with Bob Puterbaugh and at that meeting he advanced the idea of publishing a magazine strictly for bromeliophiles featuring photos of private collections, the plants, personalities, habitats and special projects, nearly all to be in color. His enthusiasm was contagious and the fledgling Council was very soon in the publishing business. I recall a photo session for volume one, issue one (pages 18/20) held at Bob Puterbaugh's house in Brandon, when Jim was photographing for "A Tale of the Fabled Takemuras". Props for the session were a green plastic tarp, a supply of dry ice, several stepladders, lights and of course Jim and his camera. The plants were staged over the dry ice, we "helpers" climbed 3 of the ladders and Jim the fourth with his camera. We each held up a corner of the tarp with one hand and fanned the mist rising from the dry ice so that it swirled. The finished product, after hundreds of exposures, made the plants appear to be rising from the mist.

He was interested only in Neoregelias and it was a real struggle to get him to publish photos of any other bromeliads. A photographic assignment in South America was responsible for rousing his interest in bromeliads. Like so many other collectors, before long he was in the business. He grew and hybridized neoregelias at Rainbow's End Plantation in Bradenton.

The Elmore flair for dramatic presentation was evident in everything he did. At shows where there were commercial booths, all the growers brought hundreds of bromeliad plants and toiled throughout the show to sell them. Jim brought representative samples of his neos and took orders for future delivery, and his booth was always a real fun and show place. His "Silver Suitcase" show at Selby in 1983 was a real classy production.

As with so many imaginative and artistic people, Jim was a real procrastinator and it was this trait that eventually put an end to the publication of Grande Magazine. That, and he had to take time out to work for a living. The four issues that exist are collector's items and a fitting monument to his artistry.

With all his thousands of photos, nowhere do I find a picture of James Elmore, the man, only his reflection in his many neoregelia hybrids. On the following pages are reproductions of some of his work, limited by our black and white publication.

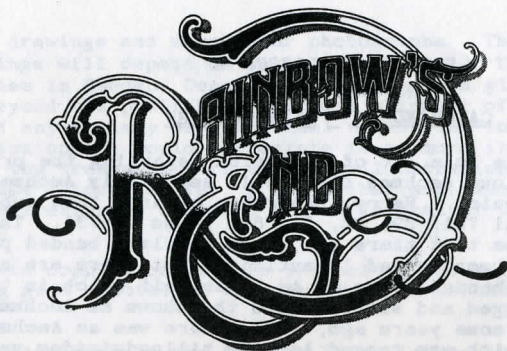
MISSING ANYTHING?



Vol. 1 #1-1978

INTRODUCING: THE BROMELIAD MAGAZINE THAT COMPLETES THE COMPLETE COLLECTOR'S COLLECTION

Bibliography: Journal of the Bromeliad Society, Volume XXXIII, #2, Page 82; #4 pages 158-168 and #5, pages 208-219. Also, Grande Magazine, issues 1 thru 4, 1978-1980.



Offsets of the following neoregella hybrids are now available for immediate delivery:

1004 YELLOW DEVIL
cruenta 'Sun King' X kautskyii

1082 ELDORADO
Dexter's Pride X Foster's Pink Tip

1005/1010/1011 CARIBBEAN SUNSET
Catherine Wilson X cruenta 'Sun King'

1095 CHECKMATE
Catherine Wilson X Takemura Princeps

1006 ARABIAN NIGHTS
cruenta 'Sun King' X Aztec

1121 STARBURST
Royal Burgundy X (pinellana x princeps)

1007 BOLERO
cruenta 'Sun King' X meyendorfil striata

1126 MARY ELMORE
carollinae tricolor 'Perfecta' X Painted Desert

1013/1019/1020/1026 RAMBLIN' ROSE
compacta X Oh No

1161 RAINBOW'S END
elmoriana 'Star Of Brazil' X Takemura Grande

1039 FANDANGO
Dexter's Pride X Takemura Princeps

1165/1169 AMAZON SUNSET
Green Apple X elmoriana 'Star Of Brazil'

1042/1077 RED APPLE
Dexter's Pride X Green Apple

1215 PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION
Quilhot Grande X Takemura Grande

1047/1067 KALIDESCOPE
Oh No X (fosterlana x spectabilis)

1287 WILLY WOOLLY
Pepper X cruenta 'Rubra'

1056 DRAGON LADY
(tristis x concentrica) X meyendorfil

1307 STACEY WOOLLY
Pepper X Foster's Freckles

- All plants above are established offsets of the original seedlings, which have been bloomed, numbered, and photographed. Exceptional or unusual seedlings have been given cultivar names, and inferior cultivars withdrawn from circulation. As a quality control, no original seedlings are offered, ever. All crosses above have been registered, and we issue our own Certificate Of Authenticity with each offset. Prices range from \$5. to \$25., with unusual, exceptional, or one of a kind cultivars ranging from \$35. to \$100. Approximately 50 additional hybrids are also available in limited quantity.

November 1989

CATCHING UP - STAYING EVEN

READ & HEED: There is a lot of confusion regarding the proper naming of the various *Aechmea chantinii*, especially *Aechmea chantinii* f. *amazonica*. Harry Luther has cleared this subject up (see BSI Journal Vol. 39, #2, 3-4/89, pages 72-73). The problem seems to be that there are green & silver banded plants which have always been tagged 'chantinii', but there are also maroon and silver banded types of *Ae. chantinii* which in the past have been tagged and entered into the shows as *Aechmea amazonica*. Then, some years ago, also, there was an *Aechmea* sold in Florida which was tagged *Aechmea tillandsioides* var. *tillandsioides*, a heavy grey-green, large plant with spectacular blooms and berries. Please note: This plant is the real *Ae. chantinii* f. *amazonica*, so named because it is found along the Amazon River basin. Remember, if it is plain green, it is *Ae. chantinii* v. *amazonica*. All banded species are *Ae. chantinii* f. *chantinii* or, rarely, *Ae. chantinii* f. *fuchsii*. Question: Does this make cross pollinated forms of these hybrids or cultivars? (Grey Ghost, Little Harv, El Dorado).

FANTASY 3: 1989 can be aptly designated as the year of the return of hobby gardening and bromeliads got a lot of the attention. When the Seminole Bromeliad Society invited the Florida Council to have it's rare plant auction at their Fantasy 3 one day show in Deland, there was a lot of eye rolling and polite skepticism. Deland? Deland? Where is that, and who, for Heaven's sake, will show up? Well, everyone reckoned without Charles Tait and Arthur Hyland. Their efforts and publicity brought 3500 people through the show that day. Seminole plant sales exceeded \$2,400.00, and the rare plant auction netted the Florida Council \$1,065.00. Those who stayed at the motel in Deland were happy with it (and the room rates). It was a completely satisfactory day all around. The exhibition plants were not all of show quality, but since they were not judged, some pretty spectacular plants were in view. Support in the way of auction plants from all the Florida societies was the key to the success of the auction, as well as attendance from all over the state. The Council hopes to repeat this event annually.

BIC UPDATE: In response to my request, I have the following interesting communication from Harry Luther, BIC Director:
Quote:

I am now in the final phase (the most tedious) of producing the Bromeliad treatment for the Flora of Ecuador. To date I have examined over 2,000 specimens of broms from nine herbaria in the USA, Europe and Ecuador. I am presently writing the final treatment which will include keys to genera and species, descriptions of genera and species, distribution and lists of specimens examined. The bromeliad flora of Ecuador consists of approximately 380 species in 15 genera; the largest genera being *Tillandsia* (ca. 132 spp.), *Guzmania* (ca. 79 spp.) and *Pitcairnia* (ca. 45 spp.). The smallest genus is *Bromelia* with 2 spp. 380 species represents approx. 1/6 of the entire family. My goal is to average one species description written every night. I have at this point reach 71. That still leaves the keys and generic accounts to finish later. The flora will be illustrated

with line drawings and some color photographs. The number of line drawings will depend on what I can afford. The sponsoring Universities in Sweden, Denmark and Ecuador can give no financial support beyond the publishing cost and shipping of specimens to Selby. If any society or individual would like to help with the illustration cost I would appreciate it as more illustrations will make the treatment more useful. Illustrations cost \$50.00 each. I use a local artist, B. N. Culbertson, whose illustrations have frequently appeared in the Journal of the Bromeliad Society.

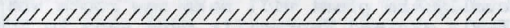
I anticipate completion of this project in the Fall of 1990 if everything goes smoothly. Publication will probably be in 1992. Unquote---

For many years most of the Florida bromeliad societies made a practice of donating \$1.00 per paid up member to the Bromeliad Identification Center. Does your society still do so? Perhaps it has been overlooked thru change of officers and/or membership. Please check. The above project deserves all the support we can give it.

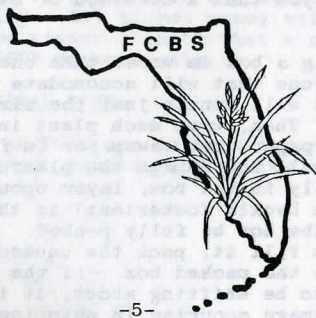
BETTER LATE-- Issue #4 of this Newsletter is the only one where I have the luxury or either being late or not publishing at all. There are no further shows to promote until Spring. My conscience only allows me to be late, not remiss, however.

HAVE A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR, WITH NO FREEZES, HIGH WINDS OR BLIGHTS OF ANY KIND.

Please keep me informed of your new society officers, and also the names, addresses and telephone numbers of any new members. I read ALL the newsletters I receive and if this information is included there, there is no need to send it to me.



The following people donated plants for the BIC rare plant auction at the Florida State Bromeliad Show in Orlando in September: Ed & Nancy Hall, Carl Perryn, Mark Schwartz, Ed & Dorothy McNulty, Boggy Creek Bromeliads, Chas. Tait, Kiti Wenzel, Kyle Brown and Charles Braneky.



BROMELIADS BY THE POUND

Carol Johnson

Bromeliads are ideal plants to ship. They do not wilt, they store reserve moisture in their leaves, and recover rapidly from even a long trip. Two years ago, at Christmas, I sent family members, all North of the Mason-Dixon line, the complete fixings for a bromeliad dish garden--the container, a bag of rocks, one of soil, a top dressing of sheet moss and the plants bare root and wrapped separately. I saw some of thos dishgardens this summer. All have survived and are doing well. Yet, it is difficult to persuade my grower friends to ship the plants, even specimens to Harry Luther at BIC.

When I started my business, I decided that I would specialize in the mail order of specimen plants. In that way I could have the enjoyment of a personal collection while selling the excess plants resulting from that collection. Over the years, I have become quite expert at packing and shipping bare root plants. The wholesale growers ship the plants in pots, sleeved, upright, and usually all the same type plant in a box. My orders may be for a mixture of Aechmeas, Billbergias, Vrieseas--in other words, a real mixture of sizes and textures, but never blooming plants except as a special favor.

How to Ship Bare Root:

1. Select plants for shipping carefully. Too small and the plants die, too big and the packing will break the leaves. Unpot, shake off the soil from the roots, then, using a hose nozzle and considerable pressure, wash ALL the soil away. Many times the roots will come off, too, but that's all right. Usually the plant will make new roots when repotted, anyway. Newly excised Neoregelia pups seem to travel as well or better than established specimens.
2. Conditioning. After cleaning and washing, dry the plants thoroughly. If you are in a hurry, dry them in front of a fan. Being completely dry is especially important in extreme heat or cold. In the heat, a wet plant will cook like a baked potato. In the cold, fungus or rot may form. Common sense will tell you that a diseased or sick plant should stay home.
3. Packing. Too big a box is worse than one that is too small. For length, use one that will accomodate the longest leaves. Your supermarket will donate just the size box you need. Tag each plant. Then, wrap each plant individually. I use special packing paper, but newspaper is fine, and the chemical in the ink will not damage the plants. Lay each wrapped plant horizontally in the box, layer upon layer, the most fragile (such as Dyckia fosteriana) in the top layer. It is important that the box be fully packed. If there are not enough plants to fill it, pack the unused space with paper. As a test, shake the packed box --if the contents can be felt and heard to be shifting about, it is not packed tight enough. Most damage occuring in shipping is caused by the plants bashing one another about in the box. Seal the box securely with strapping tape (no masking tape, string or

scotch tape). Mark the box clearly in large print:

LIVE PLANTS -- NO DELAY

and seasonally, KEEP FROM EXTREME HEAT OR COLD.
Do not ship North during freezing weather. Affix mailing label and away you go.

4. Shipping. Sad but true, NEVER ship plants by regular parcel post. Use Priority Mail, United Parcel Second Day Air or equivalent. A parcel under two pounds will go anywhere in the U.S. (including Hawaii and Alaska) for \$2.40 Priority Mail. It is surprising how many bare root plants can be shipped within the 2# limit. Unless you are young and of a persevering nature, don't bother with postal insurance. UPS will not insure live plants shipped outside Florida. Do not ship to California or Hawaii without proper clearance. Send bromeliad seed to your overseas friends, as exporting is a whole other ballgame.

Remember, we are all missionaries in the same cause. Ship good, healthy plants, well conditioned, well packed, which will arrive in good time and in good condition.

NEW MEETING PLACE FOR FWC

The Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society will be meeting at a new location beginning with the January 1990 meeting. The new location is at the Highland Recreation Complex; 400 Highlands Avenue; Largo. The change in meeting place also necessitates a new day. Meetings will be at 7:30 p.m. on SECOND WEDNESDAY of each month.

SHADES OF FANTASY FIVE

Bromeliad Society of South Florida is going to be giving away a trip to the World Conference in Houston in June. This will be a trip for two including round-trip air fare, hotel accommodations registration fees and some spending money. Each BSSF MEMBER may buy one ticket for \$1.00 between now and the end of March, the date of the drawing. All ticket money will go toward the spending money for the winner. Isn't that a neat idea? Remember, it is for BSSF members only.

DUES & MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

All member societies of FCBS are on a calendar year, so it is nearly time to renew your membership for 1990.

AECHMEA orlandiana

Aechmea orlandiana is aptly nicknamed "Christmas Jewels" since every Fall, with the coming of cool weather the plants begin to bud and are generally in full bloom at Christmas. This fall the nights have been cool and there are signs that this will be a 'beautiful' year for Aechmea orlandiana.

Aechmea orlandiana is native to Espirito Santos, Brazil, where it was discovered by Florida's own Mulford Foster in 1940. It is the only known species to be named for a city, Orlando, Mr. Foster's home. Botanical illustrations and descriptions bear little resemblance to the plant as we know it today, a plant growing to about 18 inches, with circa 20 leaves, all 'blotched', streaked, spotted in beautiful patterns and colors ranging from green thru red, purple, brown and rose to black. The flowers and bracts are red/orange/yellow and last about 10 days. Species usually self-seed in my greenhouse. Much cross-pollinating and selecting-out has occurred in the past decade, resulting in more brilliant coloring and a much more robust plant. Seedlings from the various crosses have produced such beauties as Aechmea orlandiana cv. Ensign, Ae. orlandiana variegata and albo marginata, cv. Pickaninny, cv. Shadow and ad infinitum. If the story is true, all the Aechmea orlandiana cv. Ensigns in existence are the progeny of one aberrant seedling grown by Ed Ensign of Orlando many years ago.

Ae. orlandiana has fallen from favor as an exhibition plant at the shows; and is rarely entered anymore. This is probably because of the bottom tier of leaves which habitually fold down to form a 'skirt'. In the early days of bromeliad judging, many of the judges considered the skirt a cultural fault and judged down on the plant. Came the revolution, and now the skirt leaves are judged first and if they are not there (and perfect)--no blue ribbon. It is very difficult to grow Aechmea orlandiana to show specimen perfection, as the skirt leaves foster scale and leaf fungus.

Aechmea orlandiana does best mounted on wood, or just nailed to a post. Please remember, however, that the stolons descend not ascend. Grow in as near full sun as possible for the very best color, but bring in out of the cold--the plants are very tender. When potting, use a rather coarse mix, fertilize only at potting time and grow on the dry side. The plants offset freely even when small and often succeed in unpotting themselves. Mounted plants need no fertilizer and very little attention, just lots of light.

Cost? If you find a plant to your liking, buy it, regardless of price, since you are going to eventually have a lot of them and it is best, therefore, to select a good clone.

MERRY CHRISTMAS JEWELS



FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

MINUTES OF F. C. B. S.

OCTOBER 14, 1989 MEETING

The meeting was held at the home of Ed & Nancy Hall in Maitland, Florida. They hosted the meeting on behalf of the Seminole Bromeliad Society.

The meeting was opened by Nat DeLeon, Chairman at approximately 1:30 P.M.

TREASURER'S REPORT-Carol Johnson submitted a formal report to each Representative present which showed a balance of \$2,861.02.

OLD BUSINESS

FLORIDA COUNCIL EXTRAVAGANZA-Final Report. Charles Tait, Chairman of the Extravaganza reported that it was a huge success. There were a few hitches to be ironed out in the future such as, meal reservations in advance, but otherwise it went well. The plant auction made \$1,065.00 for the F. C. B. S. coffer which made many people smile.

REPRODUCTION OF RARE PLANTS AT SELBY GARDENS-Jane Dahlin reported this was out of Harry Luther's realm of responsibility and that Larry Perdue and Dr. Christianson would be the ones to consult for this endeavor.

Nat states that some of the advantages would be conservation of rare species and possibly a source of sale plants for the store at Selby. Jane stated that she and Edith Howells and possibly Wally Berg would set-up a meeting with Larry Perdue and Dr. Christianson for the purpose of not only tissue culture reproduction but reproduction with seed.

BSI JUDGES SCHOOL -Tom Wolfe stated that the next Judges School (school # 5) will be held sometime in the Spring. The place and price will be announced later.

VAN HYNING, FOSTER & ENSIGN'S FILES-No new information at this time other than Carol Johnson stated that Althia Van Hyning was going to ship all the books, papers, etc., to Harry Luther at Selby Gardens. Also Ron Schoenau stated that Dr. David Hall is eager to have this material at the University of Florida Herbarium and assured Ron that it would be well cared for, etc., if we were interested in allowing the University of Florida to have it.

BROMELIAD IDENTIFICATION CENTER AGREEMENTS-Tom Wolfe stated that the committee has not been able to meet with the Selby Gardens people. Hopefully a report will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

RAFFLE PLANTS-Ed Hall made a motion that someone be appointed to bring a plant to the Florida Council meeting to be raffled off with the proceeds going to the Florida Council.

Nat DeLeon suggested that this should be done on a voluntary basis. Carolyn Schoenau volunteered Ron to bring the first plant.

Ed Hall amended the motion to state that a volunteer bring a plant for a silent auction. Motion was seconded, question was called, and motion passed.

1990 F. C. B. S. OFFICERS-The following Societies are responsible for providing the Officers for 1990.

President - Central Florida

Vice President - Tampa

Secretary - Sarasota

STATE SHOW-Tom Wolfe made a motion to disband the Florida Council sponsored State Show concept and instead, have an annual "Extravaganza" to be rotated from one affiliate to the other around the State as was done with the State Show. Also, the money from the plant auction would split 50/50 between the Bromeliad I. D. Center at Selby Gardens and the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

Ed McNulty seconded the motion and much discussion followed. Tom stated that the reasons for the change were to try and achieve better participation from around the State as far as meeting one another, learning from one another and having a good time together. This was hampered by the 3 to 4 day duration of most shows. Most people just couldn't spend that much time away from home and the expense of a motel.

Carol Johnson suggested that it be held in late March or early April to kick-off the growing season and so as not to conflict with any local shows. Charles Tait suggested to sell advance tickets for the meal so money is not lost on the food. Most arrangements will be left to the discretion of the host Society. However, the basic format as it stands now is a plant sale, a plant auction, a plant display and a meal.

Question was called for and the motion unanimously passed.

Jane Dahlin is going to pole the Sarasota society to possibly host the next Extravaganza. Bob Steiger will check with the West Pasco Society.

Jane Dahlin made a motion that all Florida Council Representatives will continue to be responsible to bring or send three plants to the Extravaganza for the auction (6 per society). Doners names should be submitted. Motion seconded by Ed McNulty, question was called for, and motion passed.

Ed McNulty stated that a honorary plaque was presented to Racine Foster at the State Show party on behalf of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and the Central Florida Bromeliad Society of which she is a member.

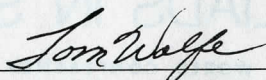
NATIVE PLANT COLLECTING-Edith Howells stated that she had a letter from the Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) along with a permit, which would be renewed annually, to collect plants on D.O.T.'s property along new road construction right-of-ways. A trip would have to be organized and a D.O.T. representative escort the group to whatever site is chosen to collect in. Edith will try to set up a trip by the next meeting in January.

Nat DeLeon thanked Ed and Nancy Hall for hosting the meeting and providing such gracious hospitality. He also thanked Tom Wolfe for his efforts in providing the minutes through the year and thanked Carol Johnson for her efforts as Treasurer and Newsletter editor.

The Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society is responsible for the January, 1990 F. C. B. S. meeting.

Nat DeLeon dismissed the meeting at approximately 4:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Wolfe, Secretary

TW: cw

TREASURER'S REPORT

October 13, 1989

Balance at last report (7/89)		\$ 2,087.82
Deposits:		
West Pasco B.S.	50.00	
Sarasota B.S.	62.00	
Caloosahatchee B.S.	99.00	
Central Florida B.S.	59.00	
Jacksonville B.S.	28.00	
Auction Proceeds	1,065.00	
Subscriptions	8.00	<u>1,371.00</u>
<u>Total Available</u>		\$ 3,458.82
Expense:		
Radio Shack (Labels, ribbon)	17.91	
Typesetting new cover	26.45	
Pr. Palace, V. 9, #3	333.61	
Postmaster, V. 9, #3	42.67	
PM, Lake Mary (100-25 & foreign mailing)	35.80	
Harry Luther, Hon. Deland	100.00	
House of Trophies, State Show	40.00	
Bank Service Charges	1.36	597.80
		<hr/>
Balance (Reconciled)		\$ <u>2,861.02</u>

SHOW PAGE

May 11-13, 1990 Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Annual Show & Plant Sale. Florida Mall, Orlando. This is Mother's Day weekend.

May 18-19, 1990 Bromeliad Society of South Florida Annual Show & Plant Sale. Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Miami.

April 27-29, 1990 Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society FIRST Show, being held jointly with the St. Petersburg Flower Club at the Bayfront Center. Show Chairman Mike LeVasseur.

August 18, 1990 Seminole Bromeliad Society Fantasy 4 One Day Exhibition & Plant Sale. Earl Brown Recreational Park, Deland.



BROMELIADS IN SPACE

NINTH WORLD CONFERENCE
JUNE 6-10, 1990
HOUSTON, TEXAS

RESERVATION FOR ALL BROMELIAD LAUNCH AND ORBITAL FUNCTIONS

SPONSORED BY:
BROMELIAD SOCIETY / HOUSTON, INC.
SOUTHWEST BROMELIAD GUILD
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RESERVATION (per individual)
EARLY
Before December 1, 1989 \$ 75.00
REGULAR
December 1, 1989 to May 1, 1990 100.00
LATE
After May 1, 1990 125.00

A Reservation entitles you to participate in all of the Bromeliad launch and orbital activities.

No refunds will be issued after May 1, 1990.

Make checks payable to: BS/H WORLD CONFERENCE

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Please print name(s) _____

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