



**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 XV - ISSUE II

MAY 1995

MAY 1995

CATCHING UP - STAYING EVEN

At the last Florida Council meeting the members had reason to consult the Council ByLaws, but nobody had a copy. It has always been my intention to reprint these every two years in the last Newsletter of the year. Looking back for a copy to reprint, I found that 1989 was the last time the ByLaws were published. Shame on me. They are reprinted in this issue. Keep your copy if you will have a need to refer to them. The show rules Addendum is due for revision, so watch for such action.

It is unfortunate that the Extravaganza has been scheduled so near the Cryptanthus Conference in Tampa the following weekend. Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, host for the event, can schedule only one event at Leu Gardens annually and the date selection will always be at the discretion of the Gardens. September 9 was the only 1995 date available to us. BSCF Extravaganza Committee is working to condense the activity on 9/9, perhaps scheduling lunch instead of dinner, with the rare plant auction to be held in the afternoon, followed by a social hour and early dispersment. Holding the auction late has always created mix-ups in auction plants and payment therefor. All of these plans are in the formative stage and there will be a statewide special mailing with the final agenda well in advance. Rumor has it that the 1996 Extravaganza will be in Sarasota.

Following is an excerpt from the Bromeliad Society of South Florida "Bromeliadvisory". Please read it carefully and dig down, either individually or as a society. Bob & Catherine Wilson were the Miami expatriate owners of Fantastic Gardens before moving to Costa Rica and establishing the Wilson Botanical Garden. In 1963 they published perhaps the first book on bromeliads for the amateur grower, "Bromeliads In Cultivation" Volume I. Sadly, Volume II was never completed, but Vol. I is a classic and its Part III, the "quick reference list", has never been surpassed.

In February we reported on the catastrophic fire which destroyed the science building and laboratory at Las Cruces Biological Station in Costa Rica, home to the Wilson Botanical Garden. Repairs and rebuilding are under way, but they are desperately in need of funds, however small the amount. Costa Rican law does not permit full fire insurance coverage. The buildings damaged by fire had the maximum coverage of \$150,000. Total costs to continue operations and go forward with repairs are estimated at \$650,000. In addition to funds, Gail Hewson de Gomez, associate station director, has asked for sets of botanical journals and books on botany, tropical horticulture, ecology and biology. Donations of both publications and funds should be sent to OTS Save the Garden Fund; Box 90632; Durham, N.C., 27708-0632. "

Dr. Howard Frank will be in Mexico the next couple of months pursuing bugs with "white hats" to combat the Evil Weevil. Which brings to mind that contributions to the Weevil Fund (except for Caloosahatchee) have dropped to non-existent. We have another payment in June to the Honduras research station and there will undoubtedly be expenses incurred in Mexico. Had we not received a generous donation from the 1992 World Bromeliad Conference in Tampa, the fund would be in very pitiful circumstances today.

Mosquitos and Bromeliads: Florida Mosquito Control and Agricultural Extension Services continue to bash tank type bromeliads as breeding grounds for mosquitos and are publicly advising again using the plants in yard planting. Actually, their oil based fogging system for mosquito control is destroying the natural predators, and, yes, the oil also will kill the Spanish Moss and other native tillandsias growing along the roadsides. To quote the findings of U of Florida, in "Mosquito Production From Bromeliads in Florida", 'As of early 1994, 67 mosquito species in 12 genera inhabit Florida. Almost all are considered native; few are associated with bromeliads.' There are plenty of mosquitos on our lakefront, but few in the greenhouse with the bromeliads, since our "Friends of the Family" keep them in check. (See November, 1994 Newsletter).

Bromelienstudien

The resurrection of *Alcantarea* and
Werauhia, a new genus

Jason R. Grant

Werauhia, a new genus

Abstract

A new genus of Bromeliaceae is described for sixty-six species and one subspecies previously attributed to *Vriesea* LINDLEY subgenus *Vriesea* section *Xiphion* (E. MORREN) E. MORREN ex MEZ. In honor of Prof. Dr. WERNER RAUH, it is named *Werauhia* J.R. GRANT, gen. nov. It is characterized by plants with mostly nocturnal anthesis, a general lack of brilliant coloration, mostly fleshy, frequently secund bracts and flowers, bilaterally symmetric, often zygomorphic corollae, androeciae and gynoeciae, the latter two well included within the corolla, dactyloid petal appendages with one to five fingers of varying length, stigmata with the cupulate type morphology, lacking papillae, and stout, dark-colored capsules. Within *Werauhia*, two sections are described: *Werauhia* for thirty taxa representing elements of UTLEY's "thecophylloid allies", and *Jutleya* J.R. GRANT sect. nov. in honor of Dr. JOHN F. UTLEY, for thirty-six species and one subspecies representing UTLEY's "thecophylloid vrieseas". The genus ranges from southern Mexico through Mesoamerica to the West Indies, Peru, and northeastern Brazil. Its center of diversity and highest concentration of species is in the mountain range that includes the Cordillera de Guanacaste, Cordillera de Tilaran, Cordillera Central and Cordillera de Talamanca in Costa Rica and western Panama.

The resurrection of *Alcantarea*

Abstract

This is the first in a series of papers that will review generic limits in the Tillandsioideae. The intent is to circumscribe the boundaries of individual genera in order to develop a natural and phylogenetic system of generic level classification within the subfamily. Here, *Alcantarea* (MORREN ex MEZ) HARMS is resurrected to the generic rank from its previous subgeneric position under *Vriesea*. It is distinguished from *Vriesea* by its spectacular, linear-long, fusiform, ephemeral, distinctly flaccidescens, spiralescent petals, and seeds with both basal and apical comas. The history, nomenclature, taxonomy, and generic relationships of the genus are discussed. Ten species form the genus, eight of which are newly added: *Alcantarea brasiliiana* (L.B. SMITH) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. duarteana* (L.B. SMITH) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. extensa* (L.B. SMITH) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. farneyi* (MARTINELLI & COSTA) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. geniculata* (WAWRA) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. imperialis* (CARRIERE) HARMS, *A. nahoumii* (LEME) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. odorata* (LEME) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov., *A. regina* (VELLOZO) HARMS, and *A. vinicolor* (PEREIRA & REITZ) J.R. GRANT, comb. nov. *Alcantarea* is restricted to the Brazilian states of Rio de Janeiro, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, and Bahia, the area of the center of diversity of *Vriesea*.

Ed. Note: Many thanks to Harry Luther for the above reprint. Many of the *Alcantarea* species listed are illustrated in the Leme/Marigo book "Bromeliads in the Brazilian Wilderness" and of course Florida growers are familiar with *A. imperialis* & *A. regina*. Many years ago Jon Hall of Florida & Costa Rica insisted upon calling Central American *Vrieseas* thecophyllums and just a couple of years ago insisted that they did not belong with the *Vrieseas*. He will be happy to see that someone agrees with him. Question: Will this mean that many of our *Vriesea* hybrids are now bi-generics?

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

Minutes of Business Meeting held April 1, 1995, hosted by the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay at the Wyndham Harbour Island Hotel.

PRESENT: Representatives from Caloosahatchee, Sam and Hattie Lou Smith; Central Florida, Carol Johnson; Florida West Coast, alt. Gwen Carnegie; Imperial Polk, Whit Merrin and Carl Perryn; Jacksonville, Al Muzzell; Tampa Bay, Judy Patterson & Tom Wolfe; Sarasota, Jane Dahlin, Don Beadle; South Florida, Virginia Schrenker, Nat DeLeon; West Pasco, Evelyn Hayes; Seminole, Ed Hall and Bud Martin.

ABSENT: Florida East Coast and Broward.

GUESTS: Nancy Hall and Jim Schrenker.

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 1:10 P.M. by Chairman Ed Hall.
2. Secretarial report: The secretarial report had been distributed previously with the meeting agenda. It was moved, seconded and passed that the minutes stand approved with the following change: Ed Hall is a representative from Seminole, not Central Florida.
3. Treasurer's Report: Carol Johnson distributed the treasurer's report for the quarter. The report was approved.
4. Evil Weevil: Al Muzzell reported on the weevil research status. A letter was received from Dr. Ronald Cave in Honduras that weevil research had gotten under way at that facility. Dr. Howard Frank sent a request for \$700.00 to be sent to the University of Florida SHARE Foundation to pay Gainesville expenses of weevil research. Tom Wolfe made the motion to honor the request, the motion was seconded and passed.
5. World Bromeliad Conference: Bud Martin reported that a mailout would be forthcoming that would contain fees and an activities list with the dates and times for activities. Requests were made for suggestions for interesting activities and Ed Hall asked for a list of

anyone with collections or gardens that would be open to visitors before or after the conference.

6. Judging School. The first session was held in Davie, Fla. on March 4, 1995. Approximately 20 prospective judges were present.

7. Extravaganza '95: Results of ballots that were sent to reps by Chairman Ed Hall to determine the wishes of the societies concerning the date of the '95 Extravaganza were discussed. The only date available at Leu Gardens was in potential conflict with the date of the Tampa Standard Show and Cryptanthus World Conference. It was the wish of the majority of the societies that the Extravaganza date remain Saturday, September 9, 1995 at the Leu Gardens in Orlando. Nat DeLeon made the motion that the society hosting the Extravaganza for the following year be determined at each July Florida Council meeting. The Council Vice-Chairman will have the duty of coordinating the date of the Extravaganza with the member societies bromeliad shows. The motion was seconded and carried.

8. Miscellaneous: Ed Hall collected Speaker's Roster sheets.

Bud Martin expressed concern that local mosquito control was at cross purposes with bromeliad growers. He suggested a display be set up at bromeliad shows to counteract adverse publicity. Tom Wolfe volunteered to assist in collecting the needed information.

The next Council meeting will be July 8, 1995 in Miami.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 P.M.

Submitted for approval: Hattie Lou Smith, Secretary

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

First Quarter 1995 at 3/31/95

Beginning Balance, General Fund	\$ 8,381.77
Deposits	-0-

Expense:

Fla. Dept. State, Corp. Tax	61.25	
B.A. Prevall, Adv. Judges School	234.00	
Print Vol. 15, #1	288.90	
Mail Vol. 15, #1	84.86	
Computer Svc. Chg.	<u>50.00</u>	719.01

Balance General Fund 3/31/95	<u>7,662.76</u>
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Weevil Fund:

Beginning Balance,	8,358.83	
Deposit (No expense)	<u>110.00</u>	<u>8,468.83</u>

Combined Balance 3/31/95	\$ <u>16,131.59</u>
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Petty Cash: Beg. Balance, 19.52
Cash Sub. 2.00 = 21.52
Out: Copies
Liq. Paper 4.17
\$ 17.35

This report prepared for April 1 meeting before bank statement received, therefore balance is not reconciled.

Computer Repair: When attempting to pull up the FCBS mailing list, I encountered "program error". Rather than take a chance & lose all the data (731 names and addresses) I took it upon myself to get expert help in retrieving it.

Carol Johnson, Treasurer
3/31/95

