



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 XVII - ISSUE III

AUGUST 1997

CATCHING UP - STAYING EVEN

1997 ROSTER: This issue carries the 1997 membership roster. This and the 1996 roster have been quite an ordeal. Area codes and zip codes bear little resemblance to those of even five years ago. If there is an error, please let me know. It can be corrected for future mailings, but this printed roster must last until August 1998.

MORE DRIFTWOOD: Russell's Bromeliads; 1690 Beardall Ave., Sanford 32771 called to say they have wood for mounting in every imaginable size and quantity--small to large pieces. I have some of their grapevine gnarls and they are super. Telephone (407) 322-0864.

PITCAIRNIA SEED: I am hunting seed of *Pitcairnia burlemarxii*. My supply of the plant is dwindling, and, while it usually self-seeds, there must be a bloom first and mine have not bloomed in several years. *Pitcairnia* are easily grown from the seeds, which are fine as dust and bear little resemblance to other *Pitcairnioideae* genera. Germination is usually fast and very good, but it does take a long time to get transplantable seedlings.

1997 EXTRAVAGANZA: Elsewhere in this issue are details of the upcoming Florida Extravaganza, to be hosted this year jointly by Bromeliad Society of South Florida & Bromeliad Society of Broward County on September 20. Plan to come and stay for the rare plant auction in the evening. Most of the plant sales at our regular shows are geared for impulse buying by the public. Rare and new plants show up in the Extravaganza sale. And, there is time to browse. This year there will be garden tours for the first time at an Extravaganza. A special mailing by FCBS the week of August 11 to all our members included details and reservation forms. SEE YOU THERE!

REPRINTED FROM THE ORLANDO SENTINEL herein is an article about spanish moss (*Tillandsia usnioides*) which is very good. The only part with which I do not agree is regarding the absence of chiggers. From time to time we receive orders for bulk "moss" which we collect in the wild. If it is not tied into a plastic bag, the trip home is torture. We always dip it in insecticidal soap and dry it before shipping. I have collected plants in many countries where there is spanish "moss", but nowhere does it compare in quantity and luxuriousness with that of our beautiful Florida "moss". Back in the sixties, the state road departments sprayed copper sulphate on highway rights of way. This threatened the future of the "moss", and, thankfully, the practice was abandoned. Now the threat is from urban development of our woodlands.

BROMELIA BALANSAE: A recent Caloosahatchee Newsletter carried an article about *Bromelia balansae*. Up our way, the plant has proliferated into natural plantings on vacant city lots and along roadways. Few people realize (or care) that, following the magnificent bloom, this wicked monster produces heavy clusters of fat, juicy, yellow fruit. An old time Floridian & garden club friend of mine years ago gave me the recipe for making wine (or was it beer?) from this fruit. She also brought me a sample. Very potent, to say the least. That recipe is somewhere in my files, which really means lost. Does anyone else out there have this recipe (formula)? If so, I would like to print it, provided it is legal to do so.

BOCA RATON BROMELIAD SOCIETY: All members of this society have been included on our mailing list as the society has indicated it plans to become a part of the Florida Council at the next regular meeting in Vero Beach in October. Their roster was received too late for the names to be included in the 1997 printing herewith; however, the majority of their members already belong to existing societies.

HANDBOOK CHANGE

RE: JUDGE EMERITUS

This proposed change was made to the Judges Certification Committee in February, 1997. Upon vote, it passed and is now in effect.

HANDBOOK - page 66, number 4, should now read:

4. Judge Emeritus

A Master Judge who is no longer able to meet the requirements of the Master Judge: viz, growing specified number of plants and genera, judging required number of shows, and/or winning required number of blue ribbons, can apply for this special designation. The Emeritus Judge must continue to keep his BSI and affiliate memberships current.

In an emergency, the Judge Emeritus may judge if placed on a panel with two Internationally Accredited BSI Judges. However, when a district has many Internationally Accredited Bromeliad Society Judges who need to earn judging credits for renewal of their certificates, or BSI Student Judges who need to earn judging credits for certification to Accredited Judge status, the use of Judges Emeriti is discouraged, and will be questioned by the Affiliate Shows Committee.

The Judges Certification Committee and the Affiliate Shows Committee needs members who are actively engaged in growing, showing, and judging Standard Bromeliad Society International Shows. Judges Emeriti by definition do not fulfill this requirement, and may not serve on these two important committees.

COMMENTS ON THE BSI HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES CHANGE MADE IN
FEBRUARY 1987

by: Thomas U. Lineham, Judge Emeritus

Here is, again, a poorly worded and ill-defined list of restrictions. To cite my own case, I wrote saying that I was no longer interested in continuing as a judge. Then, without any acknowledgement that I can recall, my name appeared in the 1996 directory with the tag "JE". That designation was meaningless since it was not defined. Now the handbook has been changed to apply various limitations to my possible judging activities and indicate that I have failed to meet the requirements of good standing. All that I asked was to have my name taken off the list of active judges.

Emeritus means "retired or honorably discharged from active duty because of age, infirmity, or long service, but retained on the rolls". The implication is that the title and status are the result of specific action by an approving authority. In my case, there was no indication of who, by what authority, designated me "JE".

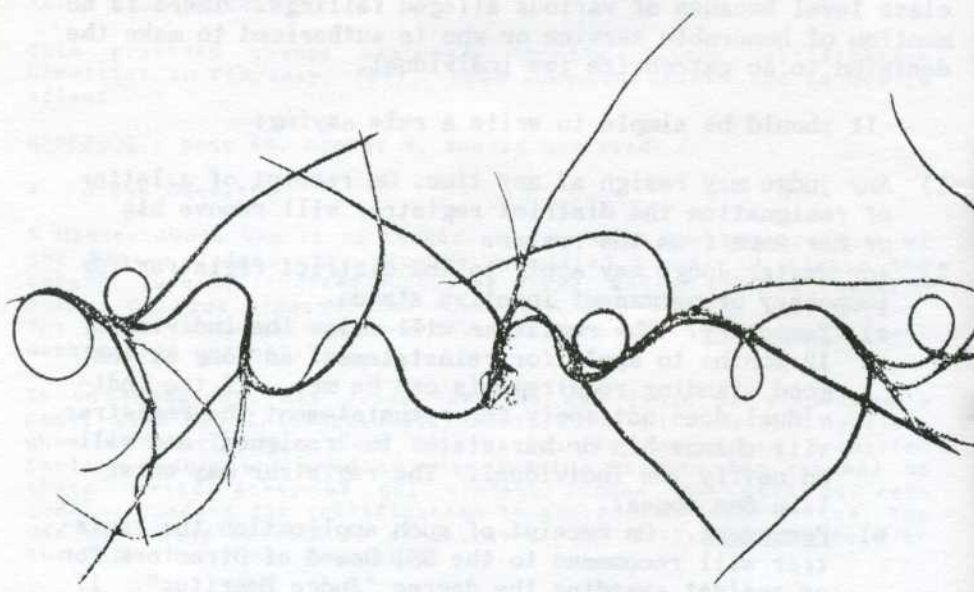
The change to Handbook, page 66, number 4 (I don't know what "number 4" means) relegates the individual to the lowest class level because of various alleged failings. There is no mention of honorable service or who is authorized to make the decision to so categorize the individual.

It should be simple to write a rule saying:

- 1) Any judge may resign at any time. On receipt of a letter of resignation the district registrar will remove his or her name from the roster.
- 2) Any Master Judge may apply to the district registrar for temporary or permanent inactive status.
 - a) Temporary. The registrar will allow the individual 12 months to apply for reinstatement as long as the good standing requirements can be met. If the individual does not apply for reinstatement the registrar will change his or her status to "resigned" and will so notify the individual. The registrar may entertain one appeal.
 - b) Permanent. On receipt of such application the registrar will recommend to the BSI Board of Directors for or against awarding the degree "Judge Emeritus". If granted, the individual's name will be retained on the roster and he or she will be excused from meeting the requirements of being an accredited judge.

- (1) A judge emeritus may be invited to serve as a member of a panel of judges if there is an occasional lack of qualified judges, but may not receive judging credits.
- (2) The registrar will invite the judge emeritus to take part in judging symposia to provide the benefit of his or her experience.

Editors Note: What is a judge emeritus? Someone who has spent two years in judging school to become an Accredited Judge, then must attend the required symposiums, judge the required number of standard shows and exhibit the required number of plants. Then an Accredited Judge moves up to become a Master Judge. All Judges Emeriti have been Master Judges. All school and symposium expenses are paid by the judge. Florida has listed, on the latest roster, 6 Emeritus Judges. They are:
B. Dean Fairchild, Connie Johnson, Frances Sanjurjo, Thomas U. Lineham, Roland Schnabel and Jean Schnabel. All of these people graduated as student judges with me in 1981 and were granted Judges certificates at the Corpus Christi World Conference in 1982. 15 years. All are very well-qualified judges, all still grow the plants, and I am sure they are all very hurt by this latest action of the Certification Committee.



FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

Minutes of Business meeting from July 12, 1997

Hosted by the Seminole Bromeliad Society

Site, Garden Club of Sanford, Sanford, FL.

The July meeting of the Council was called to order by Joy Meyer in the absence of Chairman Dr. Larry Giroux. Both the minutes and the treasurer's report were approved. There were 15 reps in attendance.

The Council decided that notices of meetings will be sent to both representatives of each society and that Carol Johnson will provide the chairman with enough mailing labels for the year.

Karen Andreas reported good cooperation from societies in sending her society information for the home page site. Karen is also setting up a BSI news page.

Carolyn Schoenau, BSI membership secretary, reported that 1014 Journals were mailed out for the last Journal. She encouraged reps to talk to their societies BSI members and remind them that for \$5 more per year they can get a Dual membership. Dual members get an extra vote in electing BSI directors for the State of Florida.

Polly Pascal reported on the 1997 Extravaganza. The site will be at the Holiday Inn, Hollywood, FL, located off I-95 at Sheridan Street. The date is Sept. 20th. Sales will be from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. with a 75%/25% split. The host societies will pay the sales tax. Plants for sale may be brought to the hotel either Friday, Sept. 19 between 6:00 and 10:00 P.M. or Saturday, Sept. 20th, between 7:00-9:00A.M. Hotel reservations must be made by September 1st to secure the \$75.00 per night rate and should be made directly to the hotel. Polly Pascal will handle the dinner reservations. The cost is \$18. The cut off date for dinner reservations is Sept. 10th. Announcements will be sent out by a Council mailing to all members of the Florida Council. This year's Extravaganza will have two seminars, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. There will also be one or two garden tours. Ed Prince of BSSF will handle plant sales and his rules are included separately with the minutes. Any seller must have an I.D. number and can obtain red labels from their society rep. Additional red tags will be available on late Friday or Saturday morning. No tags will be given to anyone not having a seller's I.D. number. Each society through their reps must furnish 5 semi-rare to rare plants for the auction that follows dinner. Council reps are to talk-up the Extravaganza at each of their society meetings prior to the event.

-----cont'd page 20-----

Nature's treasure is Spanish moss

If someone, anywhere in the country, were asked to draw a picture of a Southern landscape, it often would include a live oak or two festooned in long garlands of Spanish moss. Spanish moss is actually a misnomer; it is neither Spanish nor moss. Its Latin name is *Tillandsia usneoides*. It actually belongs to the pineapple family.

Plant life

HANK
VELDMAN

And it is not a threat to its host trees. It is a unique native plant. It derives all nourishment from the atmosphere and rainwater. It can live without water during long dry spells. It is a true "air plant," or epiphyte. It propagates by the production of tiny, inconspicuous flowers that, when fertilized, produce a tiny fruit. This little capsule comes equipped with a tiny parachute that enables it to float through the air until it finds a landing place on a tree branch.

A long strand can be broken off by the wind and carried to another tree, where it will grow into a new plant. Birds will take pieces as nesting material. Any piece dropped on a branch will grow again.

Earlier in this century, Spanish moss was the main ingredient in a thriving industry in Florida. No fewer than 35 processing plants were operating in Florida at one time, turning Spanish moss into upholstery stuffing and fill material for automobile cushions.

According to a pamphlet published by the University of Florida, "Green moss was gathered and cured by wetting it down and packing it in trenches or pits. It usually remained in the pits for

And it is not a threat to its host trees.

It is a unique native plant. It derives all nourishment from the atmos-



HANK VELDMAN

Gray-bearded oak. A live oak is at its peak in appearance with streamers of moss.

six to eight months, in which time the outer covering rotted off, leaving the inner strand. At the moss factory, it was sorted, cleaned and baled for shipment. Quite a few Floridians made at least a part-time living collecting moss. The last operating moss factory in Florida was located in Gainesville. This factory burned in 1958 and did not reopen."

Spanish moss has the undeserved reputation of being a favor-

ite habitat of the infamous red-bug, or chigger. These small, tick-like creatures are one sixty-fourth of an inch in size and, given the opportunity, may attach themselves to human or animal skin. Actually, these small, sucking insects are found in low, damp areas with thick vegetation or occasionally in home lawns. In the rare instance that Spanish moss touches the ground, it is entirely possible for redbugs to invade the low-

hanging moss. But Spanish moss not touching the ground seldom contains chiggers.

Spanish moss is a uniquely attractive part of the Southern scene — something to treasure and not take for granted.

Hank Veldman is a graduate of the University of Florida's master gardener program. Send questions to Plant Life, 4580 S. U.S. Highway 17-92, Casselberry 32707.

-----cont'd from page 5-----

Reps were reminded that society show dates are to be sent to Joy Meyer as soon as possible to avoid conflicts.

Tom Wolfe reported that at the BSI's annual meeting their name was changed to Bromeliad Society International, Inc.. It will still be known as BSI.

The 1998 Extravaganza will be hosted by the Florida East Coast Society.

Reps are reminded that if they can not attend a Council meeting they can send any member of their society as an alternate. Also, if a rep can not attend a meeting or if they are bringing a guest they should inform the host society as a common courtesy.

The Florida East Coast Soc. presented Carol Johnson with a plaque for her 20 years of dedication to the Council.

The Seminole Bromeliad Soc. was thanked for hosting the meeting and the members present enjoyed a birthday cake to honor the Council's 20th birthday.

Respectfully submitted,


Nat DeLeon

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES
invites you to attend the
1997 BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA

Hollywood, Florida - September 20, 1997 - Saturday

HOSTED BY THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY
AND THE BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

FEATURES: Plant sales, speakers, dinner and auction. Plant sales will be 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Dinner is scheduled for 6:00 with an open bar. Auction will begin at 8:00 p.m. (Plant sale
information is on the following page.)

LOCATION: Holiday Inn, Ft. Lauderdale/Hollywood - located at I-95 and Sheridan Street. One
block west of I-95. (visible from I-95). Telephone contact for those who plan to stay
overnight (before and/or after is: 1-800-480-7623 or (954) 925-9100. Mention your
bromeliad connection. Reservations must be made before **SEPTEMBER 1, 1997** to hold
room at this rate of \$75.00.

DINNER: will be catered by the Hotel. Please make advance reservations on the form below.
Cost of \$18.00 includes tax and tip.

RARE PLANT AUCTION: will follow dinner - Each society is obligated to furnish 5 semi-rare
or rare bromeliads. This is the only fund raising event for the Florida Council. Your
support is appreciated.

FLORIDA COUNCIL "TWENTY YEARS & GROWING" COME JOIN THE FUN

DINNER RESERVATION

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Please mark your choice(s): _____ Boneless Breast of Chicken Marsala

_____ Boneless Breast of Chicken Francaise

_____ Pasta Primavera

Chef's choice of vegetables, salad, rolls, coffee or tea and dessert. Cost for each dinner is \$18.00.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 10, 1997.

Send to: Polly Pascal, 4413 SW 38th Terrace, Ft. Lauderdale, FL. 33312

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ in payment for _____ dinner reservations.

I understand that hotel reservations are to be made by me directly to the hotel.

EXTRAVAGANZA PLANT SALES

Why you should sell plants at the Extravaganza

1. Help defray the expense of attending the Extravaganza.
2. Meet and greet other bromeliad growers and hobbyists.
3. Show the rest of us how the plant should really look.
4. Make enough money so that you can outbid the competition at the Rare Plant Auction.
5. Make room for all your new acquisitions following the auction.

How To Sell In Six Simple Steps - Its Easy

1. Select, tidy-up and generally prepare your plants for sale.
2. Call Ed Prince (305) 251-5289 any day between 4:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. to obtain a seller's ID number.
3. See your Florida Council representative to obtain the official ID plant tags (the red ones). You will need one tag per plant.
4. On the red tag, using a black marker (no pencils please), neatly print your ID number and the price of the plant. Your price should be an even dollar amount.
5. Place a second tag (your choice of color, except red) indicating the name of the plant in the pot along with the red tag.
6. Bring your plants to the sales area either Friday, September 19th, between 6:00 & 10:00 p.m. or Saturday, September 20th, between 7:00 & 9:00 a.m.

That's it. You're finished. Now all you have to do is sit back and become wealthy.

Rules of the Selling Game

1. You must be a member of a Florida Bromeliad society.
2. You must have an Extravaganza ID number (see # 2 above).
3. You will receive 75% of the selling price with 25% going to the host societies. The host societies will pay any sales tax.
4. You can be present in the sales area or just leave your plants to fend for themselves. It's your call.
5. Although there is NO limit on the number of plants you can sell, due to limited space, you can only have a maximum of 50 plants in the sales area at any time. Provided you have a place to store additional plants, you can replenish your stock at your pleasure, providing you do not exceed the rule of 50.
6. All plants will be inspected to ensure that no undesirables (scale, Etc.) are brought into the sales area.

FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES, INC.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Second Quarter 1997 at June 30

Beginning Balance, General Fund	\$ 5,528.65
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Deposits:

SBS Adv. on Catering, 7/12	250.00
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5,778.65

Expense:

Tom Wolfe, Red Tags	102.36	
BIC	200.00	
Postage	32.00	
Vol. XVII, Print	344.50	
" " Bulk Mail	91.69	
" " Mail Service	45.00	
BSI Publications *	11.00	826.55

Balance, GF. 6/30/97	\$ 4,952.10
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Weevil Fund:

Beginning Balance	3,075.32	
Deposits during Quarter **	3,310.00	6,385.32
(NO DISBURSEMENTS)		

Balance in Bank, 6/30/97 (Reconciled)	\$ 11,337.42
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*Outstanding at 6/30

**Donations to Weevil Fund, 2nd Quarter:

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, \$1,300.00

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society, \$1,168.00

Sarasota Bromeliad Society, \$842.00

MANY THANKS !!!!!!!!!

11/7-9/97 "DOWN HOME WITH BROMELIADS", A STANDARD
SHOW BY CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY
AT GARDEN COUNCIL BLDG: CLEVELAND AVE. &
U.S. 41, FT MYERS. BETTY ANN PREVATT,
(941) 334-0242 OR MARIE BESSELLIEU, (941)
674-0656.

9/20/97 NINTH ANNUAL FCBS ONE DAY EXTRAVAGANZA
"20 YEARS & GROWING" SEE TWO PAGES HEREIN

ADDED FEATURES THIS YEAR:

GARDEN TOURS: 1-3 PM, SAT. AT ANNE KAUFFMAN'S
3-5 PM, SAT. MAUREEN & BILL FRAZEL'S
FOR THOSE STAYING OVER: 10 AM TILL ?, MAUREEN
& BILL FRAZEL, WITH REFRESHMENTS
ALL DAY SUNDAY: TOM NAYLOR AND
BUD HENDRICKS

(DIRECTIONAL MAPS FOR ALL TOURS AT EXTRAVAGANZA)

SPEAKERS: SATURDAY, 10 A.M. - PENIEL ROMANELLI,
"GENERAL BROMELIAD CULTURE"
SATURDAY, 2 P.M. - NAT DELEON, "THE
MAKING OF A COMMERCIAL FLOWERING
BROMELIAD".

CAUTION!! YOU MUST MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS BY SEPTEMBER
1ST. TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE SPECIAL RATE. SEE INSTRUCTION
HEREIN.

EXTRAVAGANZA HISTORY:

1989 SEMINOLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY, 8/19/89
1990 WEST PASCO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
1991 BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY, 8/3/91
1992 CALOOSAHATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY, 10/31/91
1993 SEMINOLE BROMELIAD SOCIETY, 8/21/93
1994 FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOC., 9/10/94
1995 BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLA., 9/9/95
1996 SARASOTA BROMELIAD SOCIETY, 9/14/96
1997 B.S. OF SOUTH FLORIDA & BROWARD, 9/20/97
1998 FLORIDA EAST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY ?