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DEADLINES FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS ARE:

January 15 for February issue

April 15th for May issue

July 15 for August issue

October 15th for November issue

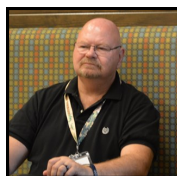
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FRONT COVER: Neoregelia 'Star Wars' is a cross of ((carolinae variegated x Hannibal Lecter) x Norman Bates) x Punctate Red(zonation) Photo by Carol Wolfe



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I Love Bromeliads... by Carol Wolfe, Editor

Greetings FCBS members,

My didn't this spring fly by...Memorial Day just around the corner, our thanks to the men and women who protect and serve our country, the World Bromeliad Conference in June, the start of Hurricane season, the "grands" are out of school and ready for a vacation, and then July 4th will be here! Do you ever get so busy, you want to slow this merry-go-round called "Life" down a notch or two? Well, sometimes, just a stroll in the yard or sitting in the sunshine will make a difference. I was experiencing one of those days, so I went for a walk and found some interesting things to enjoy: right outside my front door

Tillandsia streptocarpas



the *Tillandsia streptocarpas* was in bloom and fragrant, the bird of paradise was blooming with white flowers, a brown rabbit eating grass was hiding under the plants, the dessert rose and the cambium lily in full bloom, the male King Sago's blooming with a brown pine cone spiking about 18" high. These beautiful plants enhance our bromeliads but most of all they lift our spirits with their vibrant colors, textures, warmth and beauty. I am so blessed to be surrounded with God's creation and a husband with a green thumb!



My heartfelt thanks to Dr. Frank for sharing his presentation and photos to the FCBS for all our readers to enjoy. Thanks to Linda Sheetz, Editor of the FWCBS Newsletter, for sharing her article and picture on Dick Dailey's passing. He will surely be missed. Our Congratulations to Derek and Margaret Butcher for receiving the highest award, the Medal of the Order of Australia, from the Australian government for their 45 years of service to the bromeliad horticulture! As always, thanks to Calandra Thurrott for her faithful assistance in proofing the Newsletter.

Here's hoping everyone has a great and safe summer!



King Sago cycads-- male in bloom--18" pine cone



Aec. blanchetiana 'Wally Berg'



Guzman hybrid



Desert Rose



Bird of Paradise



Cambium Lilly



J. Howard Frank, PHD
Professor Emeritus University of Florida

By Tom Wolfe

In 1978, the Florida Legislature instructed the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) to begin a mole cricket research program to provide economic relief to Florida Cattle ranchers.

I started a landscaping and irrigation business in the early 1970's and found mole crickets to be a severe problem, not only to farmers but to homeowners' lawns, especially to Bahia type grasses. The problem was so severe that Florida store owners, service stations, movie theatres, and shopping malls had a hard time keeping them cleared from the doorways to their businesses. They were especially attracted to lights and after dark migrated to the lights. Although they did not harm anyone, they crunched under your shoes as you entered places of business.

After many years of research, Dr. J. Howard Frank and company found a nematode from Uruguay that seemed to control the invasive mole crickets. This was the salvation of the Florida ranchers, sod farmers and all other agriculture interest throughout Florida. Research is usually a long tedious process taking not only time but substantial funds to bring it to fruition. The effort paid off for Dr. Frank with a very successful solution to the mole cricket problem.

Dr. Frank has also worked hard since the early 1990's to try and find a solution for the "Evil Weevil," aka, *Metamasius collizona* problem. *Metamasius collizona* is an invasive species destroying our Florida native bromeliads since 1989. I have served on the FCBS since 1985 and have personally witnessed the work and reports that Dr. Frank, Dr. Ron Cave, and Dr. Teresa Cooper performed on our behalf.

Due to Gov. Rick Scott's line item veto, he cut over a 100 million dollars to Universities and the search for a predator could no longer be continued. Teresa Cooper started working on the bromeliad project in 2001. She faithfully provided quarterly weevil updates and reports through the FCBS Newsletter for many years but had her salary cut due to lack of funds. We will always be thankful for the work that Teresa carried out on this project. She also maintained a website, "Save Bromeliads" which documented a lot of the work and research to save bromeliads.

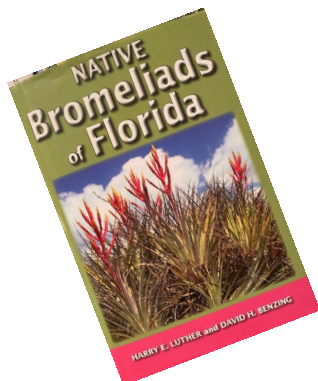
As of October 2019, the University of Florida Entomology project on *Metamasius callizona* was suspended although twelve of the sixteen Florida native bromeliads are threatened or endangered.

After many years of research, collecting bromeliads, collecting flies from foreign countries, growing them in labs, multiple field experiments, fly releases, long hours of hard work and personal expenses, it has been a long and tedious journey. Yet, even after Dr. Frank's retirement, he continues to speak and encourage us towards a solution. We are pleased to present to you Dr. Frank's article, "Weevil research: Where It Has Been and Where It Must Go."

We have been richly blessed to have a man of J. Howard Frank's caliber in our midst.



Weevil research: Where It Has Been and Where It Must Go
A report to FCBS, February 26, 2022
Howard Frank, Entomologist, University of Florida



Let's begin with that very nice book on "Native Bromeliads of Florida" by Luther and Benzing. It suggests that humans were present in Florida by 10,000 years ago, and bromeliads in southern Florida by 3,500 YA. Bromeliads cannot really have established earlier because southern Florida was under the sea. Where did the bromeliads come from? Most likely from the southwest (Mexico's Yucatan}. The bromeliads were not introduced: their seeds were wind-blown.

A weevil called *Metamasius callizona* was detected in 1989 chewing on *Tillandsia* bromeliads in a Broward County nursery by DPI inspectors. The least-damaging control method I could think of was biological control. Nat DeLeon in 1991 asked me to undertake a biological control project against it. I started by tracking the spread of *Metamasius callizona* from Broward County to more and more counties in Florida. This tracking in Florida continued more than 25 years.

<https://www.fcbs.org/frank/bromeliadbiota/wvbrom6.htm>

With suggestions from Gainesville bromeliad grower Al Muzzell, I tracked the weevil's origin to a grower in Fortín de las Flores in Veracruz state (Mexico) in 1992. The owner would not tell me where he had harvested the infested plants but allowed me to collect weevils in his shadehouses and greenhouses. I took to the Gainesville, quarantine facility close to 100 weevil larvae, pupae and adults, almost all from the grower's property, but found in them no parasitoids, nor predators attacking them.

I frequently discussed progress with Al Muzzell and mentioned I had found a literature record for *M. callizona* in Panama. He suggested that we go there, and he applied for travel funds to FCBS. The funds were granted and we went there in July 1994 and visited the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in whose beetle collection I found specimens of several *Metamasius* species but not *M. callizona*. I applied for permits for collection and export of *Metamasius* weevils and *Tillandsia* bromeliads. The weevil permit was granted for a fee. The bromeliad permit was denied on grounds that *Tillandsia xerographica* is an endangered species. I commented that *T. xerographica* does not occur in Panama, but that made no difference in the view of the biologist in charge of the permitting. We rented a car and drove to the westernmost province, Chiriquí, and found accommodation at the Jorge L. Araúz Research Center at Fortuna. The Center was surrounded by tall forest trees in which bromeliads were almost all out-of-reach. Al needed to return to Florida after 10 days, so I drove him to the airport and then returned to Chiriquí and stayed at Boquete for a few more days. My lucky find was a group of felled trees at a roadside near Boquete on which I found *Werauhia werckleana* housing about 100 *Metamasius cincinnatus* larvae, pupae and adults. I carried those weevils to the Gainesville quarantine facility and checked them all daily. All were healthy and no parasitoids were obtained.

My friend Dr. Ron Cave found one species of parasitoid in a closely-related weevil in the hilltops above Escuela Agrícola Panamericana (where he was employed) in Honduras in 1994. Subsequent work showed it would kill larvae of *Metamasius callizona* just as readily as those of *Metamasius quadrilineatus*, its natural host. It was an undescribed genus and species of fly. Ultimately, we got it described but had a hard time keeping it alive in quarantine in Florida. Frank, J.H., Cave, R.D. 2005. *Metamasius callizona* in destroying Florida's native bromeliads [p. 91-101 in] Hoddle, M. (ed.) Second International Symposium on Biological Control of Arthropods, Davos, Switzerland, September 12-16, 2005.

https://www.fcbs.org/articles/M_Callizona_Frank_cave.pdf



Tillandsia utriculata, Belize form

Photo: J. H. Frank

Well, the weevils and flies were collected from bromeliads growing at about 4,500 ft and upward in cloud forests. Could that mean that Florida was too hot, even sometimes in air-conditioned buildings? Between the sites where bromeliads were growing to the lower level where was EAP, there were no bromeliads as the land had been cleared decades ago for agriculture. Historically, could there have been trees and bromeliads at this lower altitude? Maybe, but the entire region seemed to have the same configuration: hilltops wooded and with bromeliads, lower regions cleared for agriculture and with no bromeliads. Ron's opinion was that we should proceed, mine

was that we should measure temperature tolerance of the flies at EAP where flies were much more easily obtained. We proceeded largely because we had no other candidate biological control agents.

Teresa Cooper worked long and hard on it, and we reared enough for replicated experimental releases in Florida – that failed to establish it in 2007-2008, Cooper, T.M., Frank, J.H., Cave, R.D., Burton, M.S., Dawson, J.S., Smith, B.W. 2011. Release and monitoring of a potential biological control agent, *Lixadmontia franki*, to control an invasive bromeliad-eating weevil, *Metamasius callizona*, in Florida. *Biological Control* 59: 319-325. Perhaps that was because Florida temperatures are too hot for it. We went back to exploration in Central America, in total completing 12 expeditions, with no evidence of any other parasitoid species attacking any related weevil species. In June-August 2000, Barbra-Larson a postdoctoral researcher in Gainesville visited Guatemala and spent more than 30 days exploring for bromeliad weevils. She encountered *M. dimidi-*



Tillandsia utriculata

Florida form

Photo: Teresa Cooper



Michael C. Thomas/DPI

The melanic (all-black) form of the weevil *Metamasius callizona* that exists in Belize.

More excitingly, in the vicinity of Cobán, she obtained a *Metamasius* larva from which five fly puparia were obtained. They later produced *Lixadmontia franki* flies, the same as we had found in Honduras. In October 2002, I flew to Mexico City and took a bus to the city of Veracruz where I met up with a former student of



UF/J.L. Castner

One of the *Metamasius callizona* (from Mexico) that we have in Florida

mine, Hector Cabrera. Some days later, we were joined by Mike Owen, Park Biologist at the Fakahatchee Strand in Florida. We explored Reserva Ecológica la Mancha at the coast and there did find a few adults and larvae of *M. callizona*, but in the Gainesville quarantine facility they produced no parasitoids. We visited a pineapple research station at Papaloapan where a field day was in progress and I attended a talk about “picudo negro” (local name for *M. callizona*), and learned that on occasion it was a severe pest of pineapple and was treated with harsh pesticides, but not so at present; we followed up by visiting some pineapple growers who said they did not have it at present, nor could we find it in bromeliads in sparse surrounding woodlands. Other sites were visited elsewhere and produced few or no weevils. In late October and early November 2002, Ron Cave with a technician from Zamorano explored western Belize. They got a very good haul of adult and larval weevils which were transported to the containment facility in Gainesville, but no parasitoids emerged.

We had barely started in Guatemala. I contacted [José Monzón](#) who lives in Guatemala City and works as a private tour guide to biologists. He can most readily deal with three visitors at a time due to the size of his 4WD pickup truck and sharing of costs among a group of three. We agreed on a visit to the Petén of northeastern Guatemala on 14-23 October 2005. I took Dennis Giardina (Everglades Regional Biologist of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) and Tim Andrus (a biology student at FSU) with me.

We journeyed into the Peten from Izabal, first by 4WD truck on dirt roads, and then by boat on the Río Pedro. This was a land of jaguars, crocodiles, howler monkeys and anopheles mosquitoes. Bromeliads were fairly abundant along the riverbanks, but weevils were not.

We returned to a small town called Flores where we accessed the internet to learn that very strong hurricane Wilma was trashing Cancun, Mexico and would head to Naples, Florida, hometown of Dennis. So, Dennis and Tim left for Florida while José and I returned to Izabal and then went to an area with fields of pineapples and talked to the manager, but no he had not seen weevils as pests. An area being logged closer to the Honduran border was our next stop as we hoped to find bromeliads on felled trees; We found some bromeliads but no weevils. José

suggested that we drive west to Sierra de las Minas and follow a rutted mining road as far as we could. We did so and at 1,400 meters found bromeliads and weevils. The latter were adults and larvae of *M. quadrilineatus* as we had found in Honduras. USDA rules then were that they had to be shipped by a courier service to an APHIS facility in Maryland, where the contents would be checked and forwarded to the new containment facility at Ft. Pierce. One larva produced a pupa of a parasitoid fly which looked just like that of *Lixadmontia franki*; it died, perhaps by overheating during its five-day journey from Guatemala.



Photo: J. H. Frank

This is the picture of all four weevil explorers of our last trip.

From left: Howard Frank, Dennis Giardina, Tim Andrus, Erwin Williams.

We are at a coffee shop that doubles as a drumming school in a town called Dangriga in Belize. The kids behind us are learning to drum.

In 2006, the same four explorers teamed up again in Guatemala City on 1 November 2006. On the southern slope of Volcan de Atitlán is a coffee plantation called Los Tarrales (in the Province of Suchitepéquez), which became our base for exploration of the Pacific slopes of Guatemala. Our first day was spent at another coffee plantation further north (Buenos Ayres), but we

found only tiny weevil larvae in one plant and judged them unlikely to survive. Driving along the country roads toward the coast failed to yield any sites with trees until we arrived at saline creeks lined by mangroves and rented a small boat to paddle. The mangroves proved not to house bromeliads. This time, Dennis brought his tree-climbing equipment in whose use he is expert. We spent the rest of our time at Los Tarrales and, mainly by using a 20ft ladder to get into trees, and then Dennis climbing upward with a 15ft bamboo pole with a hook attached to its tip, bromeliads could be thrown down by Dennis to the others and searched. By our final day we had accumulated more than 60 larvae packed individually in plastic vials (we had learned in early days in Honduras that if we placed more than one larva in a plastic vial, each would defend itself by biting any nearby insect and likely killing it). USDA rules (likely enforced by Homeland Security) were now that we must have the vials with larvae shipped by commercial courier to USDA-APHIS in Miami, which would inspect and then ship to Ft. Pierce. That process took 11 days for this urgent shipment, resulting in deaths of many larvae. Yes, the shipments were cooled by inclusion of IcePaks, but these would cool only for a day or two. No parasitoids were detected in this shipment.

We were occupied during 2007 with releases of the fly in Florida (see below), so did not return to Guatemala until 2008.



Weevil larva in a heavily damaged bromeliad

Photo J. H. Frank

In 2008, the same crew as in 2006 returned to Finca Los Tarrales and stayed there from 6-17 November. Searches were made on this plantation and on Finca Panamá, with its rubber trees near the town of Patulul, and on riverbanks by boat. Success was measured in terms of 91 weevil larvae, 3 pupae and 2 adults transported by air and road to the Hayslip containment facility at Ft. Pierce. To avoid problems with slow shipment by commercial carrier, I had applied to USDA-APHIS for a hand-carrying permit months before the trip, received it, and notified the USDA-APHIS of my impending arrival at Miami airport from Guatemala with

time and flight number, saying that I would be carrying insects under permit. That did not work because my flight arrived after USDA personnel had left for the day and were replaced at inspection desks by Homeland Security personnel who seemed to have no notification of my arrival. When I filled out my customs declaration form and marked that I was carrying living insects, I was marched off to a “hard holding room” where I had to wait for two hours while a group of Haitians and others was processed. Well, it was better than waiting for an urgent shipment that took 11-days. No parasitoids were produced. Ten of the weevil larvae did not belong to *Metamasius* but to a different genus that was never identified because all died.



The same group of four assembled in Guatemala City on 31 October 2009 and left for the east coast that same day. We stayed at a small hotel in the village of El Corozal at the tail of the Lago de Izabal. Lakeside trees were approached by rented boat on two days. Almost all of the bromeliads were *Tillandsia utriculata*. On land, in the grounds of Castillo San Felipe, were *Crescentia cujete* (calabash trees) supporting more *Tillandsia*. We would have expected many more weevils in the lakeside *Tillandsia* if this had been a site in Florida, although many of the *Tillandsia* were hard to access from a boat. Then we moved to an almost empty tourist hotel on the road north of the coastal Puerto Barrios, and followed it in its unpaved form for miles northwards, finding bromeliads in roadside trees beside pastures, especially east of a small town named Los Andes. We left Guatemala on 11 November, as always with a collection and export permit for the weevils. I took the weevils (5 adults of *Metamasius rugipectus*, 46 larvae, and 1 pupa) to the Hayslip containment facility at Ft. Pierce). No parasitoids were produced.

On my last expedition, to Belize in 2010 with three helpers (Dennis Giardina, Tim Andrus and Erwin Williams), we found a *Tillandsia* growing abundantly on established citrus trees. This was very unlike sites that I or Teresa have found in Florida because of so many trees and so many bromeliads. There surely was a parasitoid OR the plants were resistant to attack. We worked very hard and collected about 160 weevil larvae, pupae and adults and I carried them to quarantine in Florida. The weevils were a melanic form of *Metamasius callizona*. The photograph I took was scanned and sent by Dr. Bruce Holst to Dr. Juan Pablo Pinzón, the current expert on *Tillandsia utriculata*, who informed us it is of the Belizean form of *Tillandsia utriculata*. Frank, J.H., Giardina, D., Andrus, T. 2011. Exploration in Guatemala and Belize for more parasitoids to use against *Metamasius callizona* in Florida. *Journal of the Bromeliad Society* **61**: 112-115. Teresa Cooper performed experiments at Ft. Pierce and showed the Belizean plants ARE resistant, which she is about to publish.

This result is not as good as finding an effective parasitoid that will survive in Florida, but it is a FREEBIE. I for one am quite tired of all the effort that I and my colleagues have made to find this solution and I propose that the Belizean form of *Tillandsia utriculata* be cultivated by many hands and released in Florida where it should interbreed with the surviving Florida stock



Photo: J. H. Frank

Any delay will risk killing all surviving Florida stock because the rate of destruction is ALARMING. I point out that any delay will risk eradicating several very rare species of invertebrate animals that depend on *Tillandsia utriculata*. Frank JH, Fish D. 2008. Potential biodiversity loss caused by *Metamasius callizona* (Coleoptera: Dryophthoridae), an invasive species. Florida Entomologist 91: 1-8. <https://journals.flvc.org/flaent/article/view/75750/73408> Cooper, T.M., Frank, J.H., Cave, R.D. 2014. Loss of phytotelmata due to an invasive bromeliad-eating weevil and its potential effects on faunal diversity and biogeochemical cycles. Acta Oecologica 54: 51-56.

After 12 expeditions to Central America (Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama) and Mexico, the chances of finding another parasitoid are minimal. This cost FCBS little for it was Al Muzzell, not I, who drew “weevil funds” to pay for his and my trip to Panama 1994 and subsidize Barbra Larson’s searches in Guatemala in 2000. I obtained grant money or used personal funds to pay for my trips.

An attempt to genetically engineer a resistant plant from Florida specimens of *Tillandsia utriculata* is not a FREEBIE but only a very expensive MAYBE that may take many years to achieve even if it is possible. After all, the “Florida form” will still exist in a greenhouse at Selby Gardens and in the Bahamas. Release of any “genetically engineered” organisms in the USA is subject to intense federal screening. Some botanists want to conserve the exact Florida form of *Tillandsia utriculata*. This is not feasible at modest cost except in a greenhouse. Examples of plants that need very expensive genetic engineering research to save them are citrus trees attacked by “citrus greening” and cabbage palms attacked by “lethal bronzing”. Note that the program to eradicate “citrus greening” from Florida has so far cost about \$90 million, vastly above the funding level that eradication of *Metamasius callizona* by genetic engineering would be able to attract. The US federal government subjects genetic engineering to intense scrutiny.

We encountered in Central American bromeliads the following species of weevils: *M. callizona* (Chevrolat), *M. cincinnatus* Champion, *M. flavopictus* (Champion), *M. nudiventris* Champion, *M. quadrillneatus* Champion, *M. rugipectus* (Champion) and *M. sellatus* Champion.. It is extraordinary that Florida bromeliad growers had no serious problem with any of these until 1989. Accounts of most of the trips were published in the Journal of the B.S.I.

Crocodylus moreletii
on a sand bar in a river
in Belize

Photo: J. H. Frank





**Derek & Margaret Butcher
Received the Medal of the
Order of Australia
for service to
bromeliad horticulture**



In the Australian honours system appointments to the Order of Australia confer the highest recognition for outstanding achievement and service. The Medal of the Order of Australia is awarded for service worthy of particular recognition. The 2022 Australia Day Honours are appointments to various orders and honours to recognise and reward good works by Australian citizens. The list was announced on 26 January 2022 by the Governor General of Australia, David Hurley

Mr Derek Butcher

Bromeliad Society International

- Trustee, since 2008.
- Cultivar Registrar, 2000-2008. Bromeliad Society of South Australia
- Secretary, 1982-2010.
- Treasurer, 1981.
- Former Newsletter Editor.
- Founding Member, 1977.
- Life Member, 2011.

Publications

- Author, Beginner's Guide to Bromeliad Names, 2015.
- Co-Author, online Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads, and Bromeliad Taxon List.
- Author, Checklist of Australian bromeliads, hybrids and cultivars: including notes for the hybridist, 1995. Author, An Amateur's Guide to the Greyish Leaved Tillandsioideae, 1994.
- Contributor, Journal of the Bromeliad Society International.
- Former Blog Author, Uncle Derek Says.

Other

- First Australian to have a bromeliad species named after them, *Puya butcheriana*. Awards and Recognition include:
- Wally Berg Award for Excellence, Bromeliad Society International, 2012.
- The First and Foremost Friend to the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, 2008.

Margaret Butcher:

Bromeliad Society of South Australia

- Assistant Secretary, 1996-2010.
- Committee Member, 1989-1995.
- Founding Member, 1977.
- Life Member, 2011. Journal of the Bromeliad Society International
- Columnist.



**Congratulations to Derek and Margaret Butcher
for receiving Australia's 2022 highest award
for 45 years of working with the bromeliad industry!**



Dick Dailey, 1944—2022
Past President of the Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

By Linda Sheetz

We were devastated to learn that beloved member Dick Dailey passed away on February 12th, 2022. He was 77.

Since 1971, Dick had worked in the marketing and public relations fields, and in the last 34 years was the owner of the advertising firm, Dailey Communications, Inc. With expertise in these areas, he was a natural to become involved in many community, city and county endeavors and projects.

He and his wife Nancy joined our bromeliad society in 2009. In 2017 and 2018 he served as our president and in 2019, 2020, and the first half of 2021 he was on our Board of Directors as an advisory immediate past president. He was generous in many ways, giving both his time and creativity to our group. To promote our goals at every turn, using his advertising talents he developed colorful brochures and signs for our various events. His auctioneering skills at our annual bromeliad auction managed to coax bidders to offer high prices for a plant. His charm and determination were persuasive.



Dick Dailey 1944-2022 Continued...

He was avid about his bromeliad collection that included specimens from many genera, and he eagerly shared what he had with others—a pup here, a mature plant there. In recent years his enthusiasm expanded into the genus *Cryptanthus*, and his involvement was complete to the point that he was elected president of the *Cryptanthus* Society in 2022.

He and Nancy divided their time between their home in St. Petersburg and their second home in Homosassa, Citrus County, engaging fully in both those communities. He maintained almost all his bromeliads in the large shady yard at the home in Homosassa.

His was always ready with a smile, a handshake, a kind word, and a witty comment. The fullness of the life he had with family, friends, business associates, and community leaders is laudable and enviable. Too numerous to encapsulate here, one can read about some of his accomplishments in his obituary which is available at this link: <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/chronicleonline/name/richard-dailey-obituary?id=33077797>



Some highlights of Dick's life from the link: Dick earned a degree in media from University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music where he met his wife, Nancy. They married in August of 1967. He taught English at Citrus High School and then was appointed Educational Television Coordinator for the school system. They moved to St. Petersburg in 1971 and he became the Marketing/Public Relations Director for the City of St. Petersburg from 1971-76. He created the Mr. Sparkle character which remains on city sanitation trucks today. In 1976 he moved to the same position for Pinellas County. In 1978, he became the Director of Marketing and Programming for WTOG-TV where he worked for 10 years before opening his own advertising agency, located in downtown St. Petersburg; Dailey Communications, where he continued to love working until his passing.

Dick's passion had always been Tampa Bay area sports. He was integral in bringing the mixed PGA and LPGA tournament, the JCPenney Classic, to Tampa Bay, which has since evolved to become the current Valspar Championship. He remained active in the event through his death, serving on the board for 40 years and as General Chairman for 2 years. He helped to create and present the pitch to bring Major League Baseball to St. Petersburg. Over the years, he was involved in many projects for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Lightning.

Dick was active in city affairs in St. Petersburg, including chairman of the St. Petersburg Arts Council, chairman of the re-opening of the Mahaffey Theater, and chairman of opening day of Tropicana Field. He was also active in the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce, Northeast Exchange Club, Suncoasters of St. Petersburg, the Golden Triangle Association, Vinoy Club, and First Tee St. Petersburg.

Dailey's hobbies included gardening, golfing, boating, fishing, and was proud to have attended The Masters 13 times. He loved being the life of the party, was always ready with a joke or a funny story, and greatly cherished his time with his grandchildren.

*Patsy Lou Worley
Bradenton, Florida
1939—2020*

It recently came to my attention that Patsy Worley had passed away in Macon, Georgia, in 2020. When her health deteriorated and she was no longer able to stay in her own home, she moved to Macon and lived with her son two years until her death.

Patsy's husband, John Worley, passed away in 2010. Before coming to Bradenton, Florida, John had been in the Coast Guard for 22 years. He owned a printing business in Bradenton. When the FCBS became an official organization, a contest was held in early 1980's to choose a logo. John submitted a logo and won the \$100 prize money. The FCBS is still using John's original logo.



Patsy and John loved bromeliads and were active members of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society for many years. They lived in Bradenton and grew their bromeliads on three acres of land. Patsy really knew how to grow bromeliads and was always willing to share bromeliad information with others.

In the early 1990's they started a magazine called "Backyard Bromeliads" with a small subscription fee. Patsy, the bromeliad expert, did the writing for the magazine and was very descriptive of the plants always giving the size, the shape, growing tips, and details about the bromeliads. Her knowledge of bromeliads and enthusiasm for them were remarkable. She had a keen sense of humor, especially in her writing.

The magazine was published quarterly and it was a very labor intensive publication. In addition to the excellent cultural information shared by Patsy, color photographs of the plants were made, duplicated, and hand-pasted, into the individual bulletins. Each issue contained about five 4" x 6" color photographs. In a time when most bulletins were printed in black and white, this was a unique and special effect for their magazine.

Another feature of their bulletin was the interviews that they conducted with well-know bromeliad growers at the time. They were always generous in sharing the information from the bulletin with newsletter editors around the state.

Patsy was a loyal volunteer at Selby Gardens and the Bradenton Library system.



Neoregelia
'Charismatic'

Neoregelia 'Green Apple'

HERBERT H. HILL, JR.



I have been propagating this plant for three years and find it to be an exceptional hybrid. The late Ralph Davis made numerous hybrids and occasionally he was dissatisfied with his results, and this was one of the plants he discarded. Fortunately, a curious individual retrieved the seedlings and grew them to maturity.

In Miami, it remained insignificant, being green and lacking any outstanding coloration. Subsequently it was labeled *Neoregelia* 'Green Apple'. When I received the plant I placed it in my growing medium and subjected it to bright light. I was extremely pleased with the results. Although the parentage is unknown, this is a quality plant and a tribute to Ralph Davis.

*Lithia, Florida
From the BSI Journal
Vol. XXVII, July—Aug 1977
No. 4*

Neoregelia 'Green Apple'



Above: *Neoregelia 'Green Apple'* entered in 2017 Bromeliad Society of Central Florida show, showing optimum color.
Below: *Neoregelia 'Green Apple'* grown in the shade in Lutz, Florida in 2022.



SOME FRAGRANT TILLANDSIAS RICHARD OESER, M. D., West Germany

AMONG THE BROMELIADS THERE ARE a considerable number that distinguish themselves by having a pleasant scent. In fact, some of the names of plants designate that they are blessed with a fragrance; *Aechmea suaveolens*, *Vriesea fragrans*, and *Neoregelia olens* are three such bromeliads.

Fifteen years ago I received a *Tillandsia* from Argentina under the name of *T. odorata*—but this was probably not the true scientific name, and the plant died before it set flowers.

Since then I have become acquainted with quite a number of very fragrant *Tillandsias*. These are mostly South American species, but the fragrance of *T. usneoides* (Spanish moss) enjoys praise when it blooms in masses in the Everglades of Florida. However, our nose isn't sufficiently sensitive to perceive the fragrance of a single *Tillandsia usneoides* flower. And similarly it is quite possible that many bromeliad flowers issue a definite odor that attracts certain insects—this is especially true of species with white flowers that seem to attract insects during the night with their fragrance. Such a species is the little white-flowered *Tillandsia dyeriana* from Ecuador with its oddly branched inflorescence and pretty dark-spotted leaves, soft like those of a *Vriesea*.

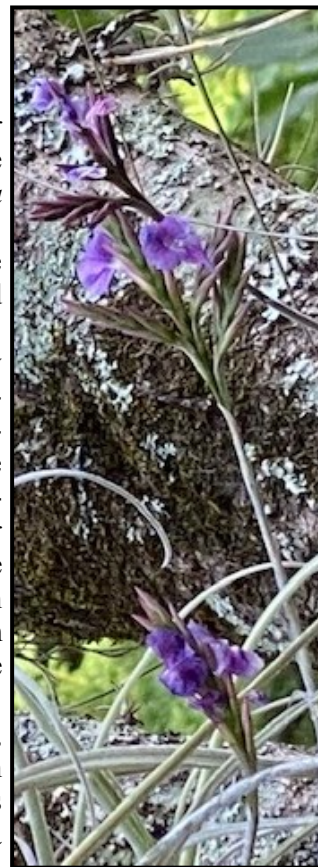
The Argentine to Paraguay and Bolivia is the home of white-, blue-, and yellow-flowered *Tillandsias* that have a very strong perfume. When a *Tillandsia decomposita* produces for weeks in succession ever new flowers along its 2 to 3 foot long stalk, the entire glass house is pervaded with a sweet fragrance, especially in the morning and in the evening. *T. streptocarpa* has a similar odor, but it is weaker.

Tillandsia xiphioides has rather large white flowers that give off a very strong carnation-like scent. (In German, the fragrance of carnation and clover are given the same name. I can't say which it should be in this case.) A *Tillandsia* I received from the Chaco in Paraguay under the name *T. arhiza* is said to have flowers 5 cm across, white, with a stunning scent. It has a stem two feet long with many side shoots. Regrettably it will be years before my imports can be expected to mature and come into bloom.

Entirely different from the white or blue-flowering species are those that have yellow flowers—usually small plants, thickly covered with scales. The strongest scent I have noticed is in *T. crocata's* almost orange colored flowers. When it is in bloom the surrounding air reminds one of cinnamon. A near relative of *T. crocata* is the *T. myosura* group, whose leaves, because they look like a mouse-tail, give the plant its name. It has very small flowers, honey-yellow to brown, all very strongly scented.

The most interesting point on this subject is that shortly after World War II along with the first *Tillandsias* arriving in Germany from the Argentine came the information that in that country they were making perfume from *Tillandsia* flowers. Many plants are being cultivated commercially for making perfume, especially in southern France. If making perfume from wild *Tillandsia* flowers has proved successful, although collecting in the wilds is probably a difficult task and will sooner or later erase the supply, the setting-up of a *Tillandsia* farm on a land not suited for other types of culture, is not so absurd as it might seem at first sight. It would be a long while, of course, before a *Tillandsia* could be expected to yield profits; but once that stage is reached, crops could be counted on year after year and harvested without too great pains, for *Tillandsias* never die, but regenerate spontaneously.

Reprinted from the Journal of the Bromeliad Society, Vol XVII, Sept-Oct 1967, No. 5



Fragrant *Tillandsia streptocarpa* at my front door Photo by Carol Wolfe

Speakers at the World Bromeliad Conference 2022

by Gregory Kolojeski, WBC 2022 Conference Co-Chair

Special thanks go to Dennis Cathcart as the Speaker Chair for coming up with such a great lineup of speakers for the World Bromeliad Conference to be held in Sarasota, Florida, USA on June 8-11, 2022. If you haven't registered yet for the conference, you can still do so at <https://www.bsi.org/>.

Speaker	Location	Topic – Presentations on June 10 th and 11 th
Julián Aguirre-Santoro	Colombia	Bromeliads of Colombia: Diversity, Conservation and Evolution
Graeme Barclay	New Zealand	Broms in the Bush – and the BSD
Cristy Brenner	California	Bromeliad Adventures in Peru
Eric Gouda	Netherlands	The Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads Project
Bruce Holst	Florida	Ecosystem Services Provided by Bromeliads
Elton Leme	Brazil	Ananas Revisited – A Review of the Ananasoid Complex
Jerry Raack	Ohio	Colorful Higher Elevation Bromeliads of Southern Ecuador
Ivon Ramirez	Mexico	No More Little Pieces but the Whole Kit and Caboodle: Plastomes in Hechtioideae
Graeme Barclay	Brazil	Banquet Keynote Speaker on June 11th – Graeme Barclay





Ivon Ramirez



Jerry Raack



Grame Barclay

**SPEAKERS
WORLD BROMELIAD
CONFERENCE
June 8 – 11, 2022
Hyatt Regency, Sarasota, Florida**

<https://www.bsi.org/>

Registration Fee: \$395.00

