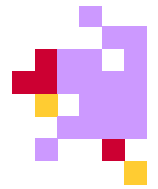




Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society



February
2006

This Month's Meeting

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 7, 2006, at Hope Presbyterian Church, 1698 S. Belcher Road, Clearwater. The doors open at 7 p.m., and the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. **PLEASE NOTE:** The March meeting will take place the **second** Tuesday of the month on March **14**, since the church will be used as a polling place for a local election March 7.

The speaker this month will be Kenneth Stokes. The topic will be "What's In The Name?" Kenneth collected native plants when he was a child in Melbourne FL. At the age of four, Kenneth was given a flower bed to plant, grow and maintain on his own. He obtained his first non-native bromeliads when he was 13. He has an extensive collection of tropical plants and has over 1,000 varieties of bromeliads in about 40 genera. Kenneth is not a commercial greenhouse grower but grows his plants in a garden setting in south Tampa. He belongs to the Sarasota Bromeliad Society and Bromeliad Society Int'l.

All members are welcome to bring in plants to sell at this meeting.

Last Month's Meeting

Ann Kavanagh related that FWCBS is seeking a member to represent us at the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. The Council meets 4 times a year. This year, the remaining 3 meetings are scheduled for April 8 in Venice, July 8 in Hollywood, and October 14 in Boca Raton. There are 12 Bromeliad Societies in Florida. One of the Council's objectives is to unify the Bromeliad Societies of Florida so they can act as a single body to achieve goals. As stated on their website, the Council has taken on the responsibility of funding and supporting the effort to fight the invasive 'Mexican Bromeliad (Evil) Weevil' that threatens both Florida's native bromeliads, as well as the collections of hobbyists. The Council also sponsors the Annual Extravaganza and Rare Plant Auctions, and developed and maintains the <http://fcbs.org> website.

As a representative at the Council, you will have the opportunity to vote on issues and goals presented at the meetings. You also get the chance to learn new and fresh ideas that were successful in other Florida societies that might help enhance our own society's programs and activities.

Dues

Remember that all members are required to pay their dues for this year. Rates are \$15.00 for a single membership and \$25.00 for a family membership. See Gary Lund, or send your dues to him at 904 Oakwood Drive, Largo, FL 33770.

REMEMBER

Please bring a friend. Guests are always welcome!!

Bring a raffle plant! Plants must have names and be sure they are free of scale.

Bring plants for show & tell.

Bring a plant for the friendship table.

Wear your name tag!



Show & Tell for January 3, 2006

Bob Dalzell:	<i>Tillandsia stricta</i> <i>Tillandsia</i> (species unknown)
Chip Hill:	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Eric Knobloch' <i>Tillandsia</i> 'Houston' <i>Aechmea gamosepala</i> <i>Billbergia</i> 'Simpatica'
Ann Kavanagh:	<i>Aechmea weilbachii</i> var. <i>penduliflora</i>
Gary Lund:	<i>Tillandsia didisticha</i> <i>Tillandsia duratii</i> <i>Tillandsia ionantha</i> var. <i>stricta</i> forma <i>fastigiata</i> (formerly known as 'Peanut')
Gyula Nemeth:	<i>Vriesea ospinae</i> var. <i>gruberi</i> <i>Guzmania musaica</i> <i>Guzmania sanguinea</i>
Helga Tarver:	<i>Tillandsia</i> 'Eric Knobloch'



Neoregelia meribel

One of Dave Johnston's favorite Neoregelias

Upcoming Events

Harry P. Leu Gardens Annual Spring Plant Sale

March 25 + 26, 2006

1920 North Forest Avenue, Orlando, FL

<http://www.leugardens.org>

Tropiflora's Spring Festival

March 31- April 2, 2006

3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota, FL

<http://www.tropiflora.com>



Bill & Marianne Schumacher are in charge of the refreshments. Food for the refreshment table is being provided this month by: Kathy Jenkins and Jim Lockwood, Vivian Lurie, Larry and Susan Sousa, and Joseph Amon.



Refreshments

What Is The Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Project About?

In the late 1980s, a weevil that feeds on bromeliads was accidentally imported into south Florida. It has steadily moved north through the state, threatening Florida's native bromeliads as well as backyard collections. Until recently, members of the Council, individually, as societies, as well as the Council itself, provided the sole funding to find a control or management plan for *Metamasius callizona*, the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil. The Council works with Dr. Howard Frank at the University of Florida. Extensive information as well as educational materials are available through the Council website, under Help Save Florida's Bromeliads. The brochure in this packet can be downloaded, reproduced and freely distributed. On the <http://fcb.org> website click on Weevil Information > Save Florida's Native Bromeliads > Educational Resources > Brochure. Download both Outside and Inside files to make the complete brochure. You will also find posters, fact sheets and a Power Point Presentation on the weevil.

Our thanks to Karen Andreas, Acting Chairman FCBS, for this update.