

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

May 2010



MAY MEETING/ANNUAL AUCTION

Date & Time:

Tuesday, May, 4th, 2010

Doors open at 7 pm; meeting starts at 7:30.

Location:

Hope Presbyterian Church

1698 South Belcher Road

Clearwater, Florida 33764

Program: Annual Bromeliad Auction

The FWCBS Annual Bromeliad Auction will take place at the May meeting. Members are asked to donate items for the auction and to bid heartily on auction items. Linda and Dennis Cathcart (TropiFlora Nursery), Donna and Michael Kiehl (Michael's Bromeliads), and Grant Groves (Color Zone Tropicals) have donated plants from their collections. These are typically terrific specimens and often unusual or hard to find. Some basic information about the event:

- There will be no business meeting, show and tell, or member plant sales during the meeting.
- Raffle table plants will be available.
- Auction items will consist only of bromeliads and bromeliad-related items such as artwork, posters, ceramics, and books.
- Plants donated for the auction should be of special interest or distinctive quality, or they should be rare or particularly fine specimens.
- Plants must be saleable quality, clean, disease- and pest-free, and clearly labeled.
- There are two parts to the auction, a Live Auction and a Silent Auction.
- The Auction Committee will determine whether an item goes to the Live Auction, the Silent Auction, or the raffle table.

Refreshments

The refreshment table will be open for the length of the auction. In order for food to be available during the auction, we are asking members to bring something to share with the group. As usual, the Society will provide the beverages.

APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Program

Alton Lee's talk *Growing Bromeliads and Other Plants Inside* emphasized reasons for growing plants, among which are: they are warm and aesthetically pleasing and offer the health benefit of removing certain contaminants from the air. He also discussed cold damage problems and solutions for protecting plants from future severe cold spells like those we experienced this past winter. The basic steps are: covering plants with sheets and/or frost cloth, providing additional heat with the use of strings of lights under the covers, and bringing truly cold tender plants inside the house.



Cold-damaged plants →→

Show and Tell

Marty Baxley

Til. intermedia; *Neo. myrmecophila*; *Neo. eleutheropetala*; *Aec. ramosa*; all severely damaged or killed by the cold weather

Chip Hill

Neo. 'Gaspacho'; *Neo. 'Bob and Grace'*; *Neo. 'Bobby Dazzler'*

Dave Johnston

Two Herb Hill, Jr., *Vriesea* hybrids (unnamed)

Linda Sheetz

Til. bulbosa (mounted on paroutis palm trunk)

Helga Tarver

Til. 'Veronica's Mariposa'; *Til. didisticha*; *Til. capitata 'Peach'* x *Til. Caput-medusae*; *Guz. 'Ostara'*



Unnamed Herb Hill *Vriesea* hybrid



Til. bulbosa growing on paurotis palm trunk

THIS AND THAT

Plant Rings

Plant rings can be the solution to the need for more space for plants, as shown in the photos below, since they allow you to "stack" the plants vertically. Slip the rings onto a length of PVC or metal pipe that has been secured in the ground or a bucket of concrete, and arrange them about the pipe as desired or suitable for the plant size. For more information, contact FWCBS member Marty Baxley, who makes the rings.



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