

FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

June 2011



NEXT MEETING

Date & Time:

Tuesday, June 7, 2011

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

Location:

Hope Presbyterian Church
1698 South Belcher Road
Clearwater, Florida 33764

Program

Our speaker is Al Muzzell, owner of New World Bromeliads in Gainesville and a founding member of the Gainesville Bromeliad Society. Al's talk is titled *Pitcairnioideae - Have We Forgotten Them?* Pitcairnioideae is one of the three subfamilies of the family of bromeliads, i.e., Bromeliaceae. (The other two subfamilies are Tillandsioideae and Bromelioideae.) The Pitcairnioideae subfamily includes 16 genera of terrestrial bromeliads and the more commonly grown ones are Dyckia, Hechtia, Pitcairnia and Puya.

While it will not likely be the thrust of Al's talk, a 2007 paper from the University of Michigan proposes eight subfamilies for the family Bromeliaceae instead of the current three. Under the suggested changes, the subfamily Pitcairnioideae would be reorganized and reduced to only five genera. The paper was based on 10 years research on evolutionary history and DNA variations. For more information on the proposed subfamilies, go to the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies website, fcbs.org, and on the menu on the left click on "Taxonomy/Classification" and then click on the article *Bromeliaceae and its eight sub-families*, by Derek Butcher.

Plant Sales

Mr. Muzzell will be the sole vendor of plants for this meeting, so there will be no member plant sales.

Refreshments

Cindy Redmond, Refreshment Chair, reports that Alton Lee and Bob Dalzell have signed up to assist with the refreshments for the meeting. She will have a new sign-up list for future food volunteers.

LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Program

The May meeting was our annual bromeliad auction, and our thanks go to all who donated plants, worked the auction, and especially bid on and bought plants. Names of the volunteers and donors are below. If your name is not listed there, please let the editor know so that you can be properly thanked.

Plant Donations, Live and Silent Auctions

Barret Bassick
Marty Baxley
Bob Dalzell
Barbara Gardner
Peggy Goodale
Chip Hill
Dave Johnston

Alton Lee
Steve Littlefield
Bob Powell
Andy Price
Kathy Risley
David Smith
Helga Tarver

Plant Donations, Special Raffle

Dennis and Linda Cathcart
Grant Groves
Michael Kiehl

Auctioneers/Helpers

John Bankhead
Dave Johnston
Kathy Risley

Alton Lee
Mike Petryszak

Cashiers

Suzanne Bogacki
Chip Hill
Gary Lund

Plant Sorters/Arrangers

Marty Baxley
Alton Lee
Helga Tarver

Below are pictures of some of the many fine and lovely plants in the auction.



Guz. 'Snowball'



Guz. 'Moonlight'



Neo. 'Denise'



Neo. 'Nivea'



Aec. nudicaulis



Guz. 'Symphony' variegata

Aec. chantinii black
→ → →



Basket of bromeliads and staghorn fern
← ← ←

THIS AND THAT

New Members

We welcome new member Sue Myers who joined at the May meeting.

Member Service Recognition Award

This is the time of the year when we ask members to nominate a person who they believe should be honored for their service to our Society. Several years ago, the FWCBS established an award to honor members, past or present, who have served the Society in a manner that significantly promoted its goals. The Board of Directors reviews the nominations and determines who, if any, among the names submitted will receive the award. Names of members so honored are placed on a plaque on a boulder located next to the FWCBS bench in the Bromeliad Garden at the Florida Botanical Gardens.

If you would like to nominate someone for this award, submit your nomination, in writing, to FWCBS Secretary Suzanne Bogacki on or before the July meeting date. The Board will review the nominations at the next quarterly Board meeting that will be held in late July.

Recent Plant Sales Vendors

FWCBS members who sold plants in our Society's booth at the April 30-May 1 Green Thumb Festival in St. Petersburg were Denise Garcia, Dave Johnston, and David Smith. We thank these folks for their efforts on our behalf. Regretfully, I do not have the names of non-selling members who volunteered their services and helped with the sales work but please know we are thankful for you, too.

UPCOMING EVENTS, 2011

June 24-25, Tropiflora Nursery Summer Sale

Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota, 941-351-2267 (tropiflora.com)

November 4-6, Bromeliad Extravaganza® 2011

The Plaza Resort and Spa, Daytona Beach

Hosted by the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society and sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (fcb.org)

Event includes the 12th Annual International Cryptanthus Society Show

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Newsletter Editor, Linda Sheetz, lsheetz@tampabay.rr.com

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society, P.O. Box 4185, Clearwater, FL 33758