

# FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

1954-2015

*Celebrating over 60 Years in Bromeliads*

*floridabromeliads.org*



## June 2015 Newsletter

### NEXT MEETING

**Date & Time:**

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

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

**Location:**

Good Samaritan Church

6085 Park Boulevard

Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

**Program**

Our speaker at the June meeting will be long-time member and bromeliad grower Alton Lee whose talk is titled *Vrieseas: the Royal Family of Bromeliads*. Alton has been a member of our Society since he first started growing bromeliads in the late 1970s. His current bromeliad collection numbers in the hundreds of different varieties. He has published many articles over the years in numerous publications including The Bromeliad Society International Journal and the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies quarterly newsletter.

**Plant Sales**

All members are welcome to sell bromeliads at the meeting.

### LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**Program** Our Annual Bromeliad Auction was another great success, thanks to the folks who donated plants, bought plants, and worked as auctioneers, cashiers, and plant runners. Thanks also go to the people who brought food and those who helped arrange it all, especially Kay Petryszak, who also does a marvelous job with the refreshments at all our meetings. And thanks to Helga Tarver who sorted through all the plants and set up the silent auction that went along with the live auction. Below are pictures that show some features of the evening's event.

**THE PLANTS**



**....and ART**

Steve Littlefield and the bromeliad print he made and donated.



**THE AUCTIONEERS**



Alton Lee



Dave Johnston and Kathy Risley



Marty Baxley and Barrett Bassick

**THE PLANT RUNNERS**



Carol Gardinier



John Edwards

**THE RECORDERS/CASHIERS**



Mike Petryszak, Barbara Stayer,  
Gary Lund

**THE BIDDERS**



## THIS AND THAT

### 2015 Bromeliad Extravaganza® Bus Trip Update

As you are aware, President Ashley Graham has arranged for a bus to take a limited number of our members to the 2015 Bromeliad Extravaganza, *Bromeliads in the Magic City*, September 25 through 27, in Miami. The bus trip will include stops at a number of nurseries on the way both to and from the Extravaganza. The number of seats on the bus is limited and over half of them have been already been reserved. If you are interested in reserving a seat, please contact Ashley at [adglaw@gmail.com](mailto:adglaw@gmail.com). For more information about the Extravaganza, such as the schedule of events, registration and host hotel, go to the website for the Bromeliad Society of South Florida (the Extravaganza host) at: <http://www.bssf-miami.org>.

### USF Plant Sale

Sellers at our sales booth at the recent USF Spring Plant Sale were Marty Baxley, Bruce Fairbanks, and Judy and Gary Lund, and the volunteers who helped sell, cashier, and bag plants were John Edwards, Alton Lee, and Janet Stoffels. Barbara Stayer donated plants to the Society that the volunteers sold at the booth, too. We appreciate the generosity of these folks. As you know, a portion of the sales generated goes into our Society treasury.

### New Member

Bill Schumacher, who with his wife had been members of our Society from about 2004 to 2010, has returned to the fold, as it were, and rejoined the Society at the last meeting. Welcome back, Bill.

### Blooming this Month

Gary Lund submitted the following pictures of bromeliads blooming in his yard this month.



*Aechmea bracteata* variegated



*Tillandsia edithae*



*Tillandsia streptophylla*



*Aechmea 'Shelldancer'*  
(*Aec. fendleri* x *dichlamydea*)



*Aechmea fendleri* cultivar

### UPCOMING EVENTS, 2015

June 26-27, Tropiflora Summer Blowout Sale

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

August 8, USF Bromeliad Sale

University of South Florida Botanical Gardens, Tampa, FL (cas.usf.edu/garden)

August 15-16, Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale

The Garden Club of Sanford, Sanford, FL (Ben Klugh at Klughka@yahoo.com)

October 10-11, USF Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Sale

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL (cas.usf.edu/garden)

September 25-27, **Bromeliad Extravaqanza, Bromeliads in the Magic City**

Hosted by the Bromeliad Society of South Florida, Miami (<http://www.bssf-miami.org>;  
bpartagas@bellsouth.net)

### 2015 FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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