

# FLORIDA WEST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 2012

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## NEXT MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday, September 4, 2012  
**Location:** Hope Presbyterian Church  
1698 South Belcher Road  
Clearwater, Florida 33764  
**Time:** Doors open at 7 pm; meeting starts at 7:30

## Program

**Dennis Cathcart** is going to tell us about the grand opening of Singapore's Gardens by the Bay he attended this summer and the part his firm Tropiflora Nursery played in supplying over 300,000 plants for the gardens. In July 2010 while the gardens were still under construction, he made a presentation to our group and told us how he and Tropiflora were working with the gardens, and he showed us drawings of some of the planned features in the gardens. Now the gardens are finished and open to the public, and he will show pictures he took at the opening that record how the plans for the gardens were realized.

## Plant Sales

All members are welcome to sell bromeliads at the meeting.

## Refreshments Policy

At the August Board of Directors meeting, the Board discussed the recently adopted refreshment policy. Based on that discussion, at the September meeting an alternative policy will be presented for the members to consider.

## LAST MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Program: Members' Showcase

The Members' Showcase program of six short workshops/presentations was informative and enjoyed by all. Susan Sousa had it well organized and members moved through the room visiting each workshop at timed intervals. A lot of information was disseminated in those intervals. Presenters and their topics were as follows:

- **Barret Bassick:** *Navigating the FCBS Website.* Barret talked about how best to utilize this website, which is a great resource for bromeliad lovers. This was particularly informative for our newer members and a good refresher for our older, or rather, more established members.
- **Marty Baxley:** *Hybridize and Grow Bromeliads from Seed.* Using props and handouts, Marty showed his hybridizing method and provided a lot of information in the short time allotted.
- **Dave Johnston:** *Force-blooming Bromeliads.* Dave demonstrated how to use a commercial product, Florel® (ethylene gas in a liquid formulation), to induce bromeliads to bloom sooner than the cycle Mother Nature typically allows. This is handy for commercial growers with upcoming sales and hobbyists who plan to enter a blooming plant in an upcoming show.
- **Gary Lund:** *Thorns, Thorns, Thorns...Why?* Gary is known for his love of the thornier bromeliads (such as Hechtia and Dyckia) and he talked about their appeal, care, and feeding, and how to defend oneself when dealing with them.
- **Linda Sheetz:** *Preparing a Bromeliad for a Show.* Linda talked about desirable features for a bromeliad that is being entered in a judged show and how to prepare a plant to enhance those traits. She showed

plants with winning traits, plants with less than desirable traits, and plants that really should have been left at home and not brought to a show.

- Larry Sousa: *Creating a Bromeliad Database*. Larry showed the Excel spreadsheet database he designed to catalogue his bromeliad collection. He had a file of photographs of the plants that he can cross-reference with the database file.

**Below are pictures of presenters at the event.**  
(Photos courtesy of Nicole Matwijczyk)



← Gary Lund: *Thorns, Thorns, Thorn...Why?*



Barret Bassick: *Navigating the FCBS Website* →



← Linda Sheetz: *Preparing a Bromeliad for a Show*



← Larry Sousa: *Creating a Bromeliad Database*



Marty Baxley: *Hybridize and Grow Bromeliads from Seed* →



Dave Johnston: *Force-blooming Bromeliads*

**Show and Tell**

Marty Baxley

All Chester Skotak plants: *Aec. fasciata* x *flavorosea*; *Vriesea erythrodactylon* (large form); *Neo.* 'Chester'; *Neo.* 'Baby Skotak'; *Neo. carolinae* x *nivea*; *Neo.* 'Treasure Chest' x *N. concentrica* 'John Barbie'; three additional new *Neo* hybrids

Mary Sue Beeler

*Neo.* hybrid (Ray Coleman); *Neo.* hybrid (unknown)

Robert Herberich	<i>Aec. chantinii</i> ; <i>Til.</i> 'Nellie Rose'; X <i>Canmea</i> 'Jaspe'; <i>Neo.</i> 'Hannibal Lector' x 'Kahala Dawn'
Alton Lee	<i>Vr.</i> 'Sweetheart'; <i>Aec. chantinii</i> (black); X <i>Neomea</i> 'Whiskey Street'
Steve Littlefield	Photos of a 14-year old <i>Alcantarea edmundoa</i> with a bloom stalk; <i>Aec.</i> 'Bert'
Gary Lund	<i>Aec. blanchetiana</i> red form
Fred Reid	X <i>Neomea</i> 'Popcorn'; <i>Vr. espinosae</i>
Linda Sheetz	<i>Til. intermedia</i> ; <i>Til. ionantha</i> var <i>van-hyningii</i> ; <i>Til.</i> 'Purple Passion' ( <i>T. seleriana</i> x <i>T. tricolor</i> )

Below are pictures of Show and Tell plants.  
 (Some photos courtesy of Nicole Matwijczyk and Alvaro Maranhao)



X *Canmea* 'Jaspe'



*Til.* 'Nellie Rose'



*Neo.* 'Baby Skotak'



*Vr.* *erythroductylon*



*Neo.* 'Chester'



*Neo.* hybrid (from *Neo.* 'Hannibal Lector')



*Alcantarea edmundoa*



← ← *Til. intermedia*

*Til. 'Purple Passion'* → →



#### THIS AND THAT

#### New Member

We welcome new member Jill Lasch who joined at the August meeting.

#### Member Service Recognition Award

Once a year members are asked to nominate a member, past or present, who they believe should be honored for their service to our Society. If you would like to nominate someone for our Member Service Recognition Award, submit your nomination, in writing, to Secretary Suzanne Bogacki on or before the October meeting date. The Board of Directors will review the nominations at the next quarterly Board meeting that will be held in October and report back to the members the results of their review.

#### August Show and Tell Addendum

The Aec. 'Fascini' albomarginated that Bob Dalzell showed at the July meeting is also known as Aec. 'Felice'.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS, 2012

**September 24-October 1, World Bromeliad Conference, Orlandiana '12- Kaleidoscope of Bromeliads**

Caribe Royal Hotel, Orlando, FL, USA ([fcbs.org/Upcoming Events](http://fcbs.org/Upcoming%20Events))

**October 5-7, Tropiflora Fall Festival**

Tropiflora Nursery, 3530 Tallavast Road, Sarasota, 941-351-2267 ([tropiflora.com](http://tropiflora.com))

**October 13-14, USF Fall Plant Sale**

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

**December 1-2, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Sale**

Terry Park, Ft. Myers ( [vicky chir@aol.com](mailto:vicky chir@aol.com))

**FWCBS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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