



Meeting Information

Next Meeting: Thursday - 09/16/2010

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Mounts Botanical Garden at 531 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach FL 33415. North of Southern Blvd. Meeting is in the building next to the front parking lot. (Do not go through the main entrance gate.)

Website: Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches

Officers

Joe Libertucci - President
Lewis Burger - Vice President
Tammy Marks - Treasurer
Allen Sistrunk - Secretary

Directors

Nick Bethmann - Director
Cynthia Wroblowsky - Director
Ruth Lynch - Director

Committee Chairs

Kathy Silverio - Refreshments
Lynn Thompson - Editor / e-Editor
Tammy Marks - Web Master
Shawna Price - Publicist
Lynn Thompson - Membership
Kitty Phillips - Past President
Shawna Price - Events
Jeff Hutchinson - Sales
Nick Bethmann - Librarian

September Program:

Dr. Bruce McAlpin on "Tips, Tricks & Techniques of Bromeliad Culture"

See page 2 for speaker's bio.

Dr. McAlpin will have plants for sale. Members please do not bring plants to sell. Raffle plants are ok.

September Ramble: Ramble to three homes in Lakeworth. Details to be e-mailed later.

President's Message

The impromptu Ramble last month was a blast! I didn't get to view Jeff's place because I had a late start on the cooking that morning due to a late-nighter with an old buddy and a bottle of champagne. There was great enthusiasm for the palms, philodendrons, gingers and native plants. Some people even commented on the bromeliads in the trees! Thanks for the kitchen help Rod and Kathy. I would have burnt everything if they hadn't covered me while I joined the garden tours. As usual with the club it was weapons of mass ingestion when the food was served. ..and let's not forget the Bellinis.

It's the start of the Fall Plant Sales when all the vendors attempt to reduce their stock before the cold weather comes. It's also time to start considering new officers for next year. According to our Bylaws a President can only serve 3 terms so this is my final year as President. The reign of terror that began in Boca Raton when our meetings were small, intimate gatherings ends with the mass pandemonium that occurs today at Mounts. We've changed our location, changed our name but haven't changed our enthusiasm for bromeliads. I'll be asking for volunteers to participate in the Nominating Committee at the next meeting. So if you don't want to volunteer make sure you attend. Ruth Lynch has accepted the position of Chairman of the Nominating Committee. She will be looking for two people to assist.

See you at the next meeting or welcome to the nominating committee...

Joe Libertucci

What to bring?

Kathy Silverio Refreshment Chair

What should I bring for the refreshment table? I am always amazed how many people ask that question. I will let you in on a little secret, no matter what is on the table, there never seems to be any leftovers. So don't hesitate to bring anything you want. It does not have to be a dessert. It can be any assortment of food, pizza, subway subs, pasta, chicken wings, tuna noodle casserole to just name a few. And don't forget about cookies, cakes, pies and brownies. We even had an ice cream cake once. Variety is what makes our refreshment table so special.

So thank you to the following members that made the table special last month: Jim, Aine, Marion, Rod, Harriet, Betty & Joe, Pedro, Lew & Kathy, and to any members I missed acknowledging, we could not have a refreshment table without member contributions.

We are into the off season for birthdays and some of our members are out of town, so if you feel like bringing something for the refreshment table do not hesitate, it does not have to be your birthday month. The meetings are always well attended so any and all contributions are welcome.

Our meeting is coming up on Thursday, September 16th. If it is your birthday month (or if you just feel like it) please bring in a snack or other refreshment for the table. Let me know what you will be bringing by calling me at (561) 635-1507 or email me at drrodrigos@aol.com. Oh and by the way, if I do not hear from you and it is your birthday month, you may get a gentle reminder from your favorite refreshment chair.

Don't forget, those with December birthdays may bring refreshments any month, since there is no meeting in December. *See you at the meeting!*

New Members:

Lavonne Bloom, Wayman Bussey, Diane Peaden, Alexis Smith

September Birthdays:

Nick Bethmann, Carolyn Bethmann, Maureen Havlik, Joe Libertucci, Arlette Mena, Benjamin Savage, Michael Sciolino Happy Birthday!

Speaker September 2010

Dr. Bruce McAlpin

"Tips, Tricks & Techniques of Bromeliad Culture"

Dr. McAlpin obtained his Masters and PhD in Botany and Plant Anatomy from Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. He taught Botany at a community college in Virginia for 1 1/2 years before taking a position at Wilson Botanical Gardens in Costa Rica.

After a 3 year stay at Wilson Botanical Gardens, Dr. McAlpin moved on to New York Botanical Gardens, where he remained for eight years. He subsequently took a position as Director of Horticulture at Selby Botanical Gardens, where he remained for three years.

Dr. McAlpin taught Botany and Horticulture at Miami-Dade Community College for eighteen years before retiring.

He now lives in LaBelle, Florida and is an active member of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society. In addition to growing bromeliads, he actively cultivates a host of other plants including palms, cycads, ferns, aroids and aquatic plants.

Dr. McAlpin will be bringing plants from his collection for sale, so do not miss this opportunity to add to your collections. For those members new to bromeliad cultivation, Dr. McAlpin's talk will provide invaluable information regarding the "tips" and "tricks" utilized by experienced growers to produce beautiful plants.

Websites:

BSI International:

<http://www.bsi.org/>

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies

<http://www.FCBS.org>

Boca Raton Bromeliad Forum

<http://forums.bocabromeliads.com/>

Mounts Botanical Garden

<http://www.mounts.org/home.asp>