



June 2023

WEBPAGE: <http://www.bssf-miami.org/>



Facebook- Public
Bromeliad Society of South Florida

http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSSF/?bookmark_t=group



Facebook - Members
Bromeliad Society of South Florida

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/84661684279>



FCBS Newsletter

<https://www.fcbs.org/newsletters/FCBS/2023/05-20223.pdf>

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Hospitality: Elaine Mills
Library: Barbara Partagas
Membership: Patty Gonzalez/Melody Ray
Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello
Refreshments: Sandy Roth
Field Trips:
Community Service: Carl Bauer
Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo

June 20, 2023 MEETING 7:30 PM

Corbin A

**SPEAKER: Mike Michalski - Trip to Costa Rica
and Chester Skotak's Nursery**

Food Donations Appreciated - Win the prize

No Member Plant Sales

Silent Auction Plants OK

SEND US PHOTOS OF YOUR GARDEN

Our Vice President, Patty Gonzalez, has requested that we send pictures of our gardens in order to plan a program. Here is your chance to show off your plants that were too big or too hard to dig up for the show. And you get to edit out those bare spots you don't want anyone to see. Send them to tinaseverson@gmail.com

THE EXTRAVAGANZA IS FUN!!

JULY 28-29 IN W. PALM BEACH

REGISTRATION \$175

MARRIOTT \$139/night

www.fcbsextravaganza.org

President's Message

Presidents Message

Happy Father's Day! Wishing you a great month! Also thankful for all the people that donated and worked so hard to make our garage sale fundraiser a huge success. Special thanks to Maureen and Richard for hosting this in their driveway and doing so much to prepare! Our people are the best and we need each one of you to make this society successful. Continue to invite your friends and family. We love new members. Reminder to anyone that would like to donate to our raffle table if you have extra bromeliads to share, please bring them in. Keep in mind food items are always appreciated and you will get a food raffle ticket for sharing your cuisine!

TINA SEVERSON

EXTRAVAGANZA

June 30 is the deadline for reduced rate at the Marriott in W. Palm Beach. Don't miss your discount. As of this week, we have over 10 people attending. You can also go for the day (Saturday) to buy and see plants. For more info go to www.fcbsextravaganza.org

RAFFLE TICKETS

You spoke - we listened. Raffle table ticket prices have been adjusted to 5 tickets for \$5 with a \$5 minimum. This is more in line with other plant societies prices.

FOOD AT MEETINGS

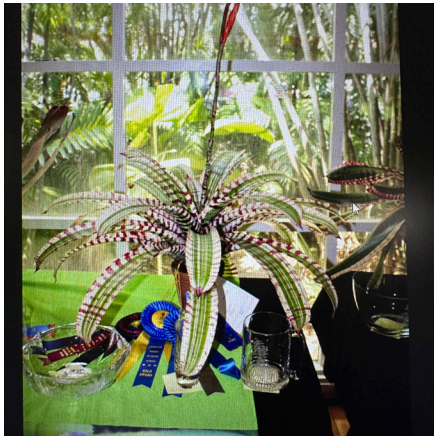
We continue to need food donations for our meetings. Side dishes and desserts are a good choice. And you have a chance to win the food prize which is usually, you guessed it, a plant.

GARAGE SALE

Thank you to everyone who worked at or donated to our June 10 garage sale. It was hot and sweaty but we had fun and sold like crazy. Our net was \$934.25. We may have a second sale in a few months.



SHOW WINNERS



Gold Award - Best Flowering
Bromeliad - Jeff Block -
Vriesea splendorite
Harvey Bullis Award



Gold Award - Best Non-Flowering
Bromeliad - Lori Hildebrand
Tillandsia stricta
Steve Correale Award



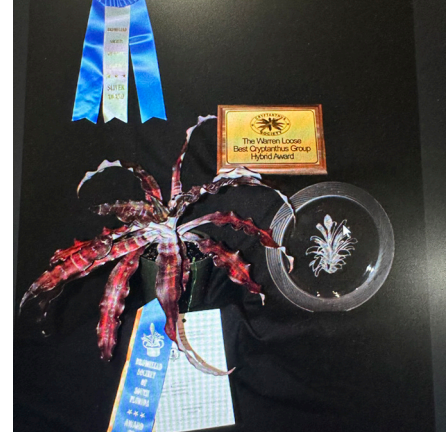
Ralph Davis Award - Neo.
carcharodon 'Silver' -
Alan Herndon



Best Decorative Container - Neo.
'Moyna' - Ofelia Sorzano



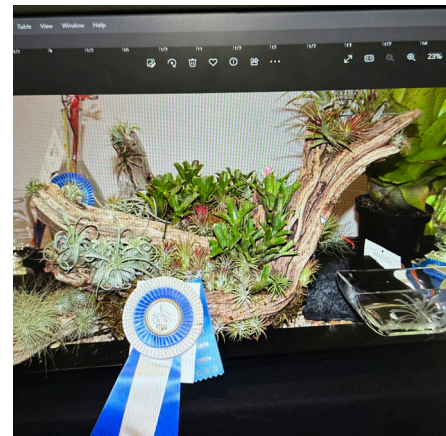
Bob Whitman Best Cryptanthus Award
- Barbara Partagas - Crypt. 'Elaine'



Warren Loose Best Cryptanthus Group -
Award - Barbara Partagas - Cryptanthus
'Volcano'



Best Blooming Neoregelia - Nat DeLeon
Award - Ofelia Sorzano - Neo.
Carcharodon 'Silver'



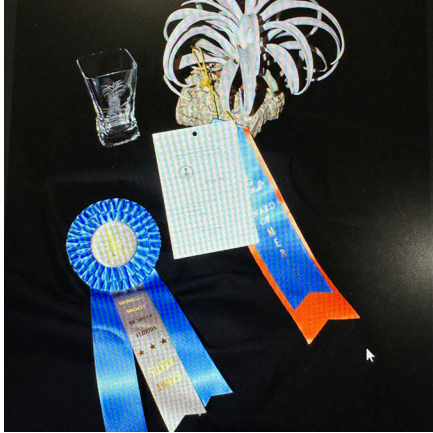
Barbara Sparling Award - Chieng Manlee



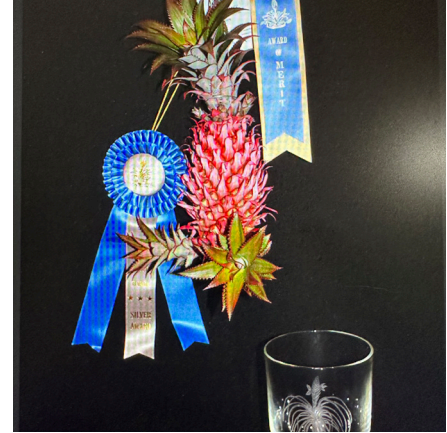
Best Hohenbergia - Alan Herndon
Hoh. leopoldo horstii



Best Non-Blooming Vriesea -
Patty Gonzalez - Vr. fosteriana



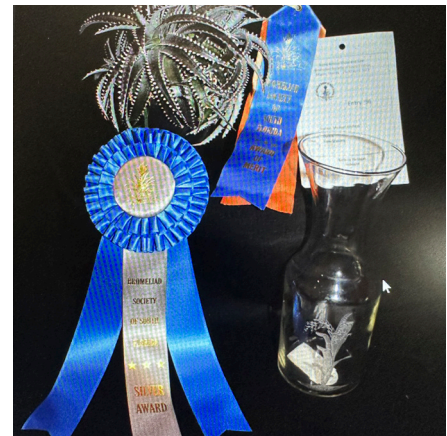
Tillandsia aeranthus - Barbara Partagas



Best Fruiting Bromeliad - Tina Severson



Best Flowering Neoregelia -
Alex Bello - Neo. 'King Cobra'



Best Dyckia - Barbara Partagas
Dyckia 'Michael Andreas'



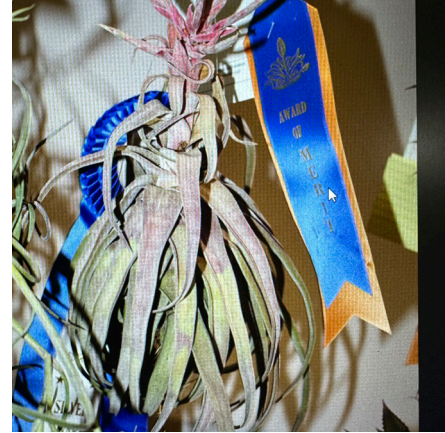
Best Billbergia - Barbara Partagas
Billbergia 'Nuance'



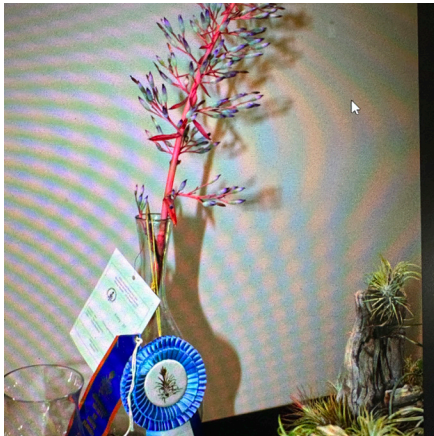
Best Goudaea - Samantha Jones -
Goudaea ospinae var. gruberi



Tillandsia - Chieng Manlee - Silver Award



Flowering Tillandsia - Peter Kouchalakos
Silver Award



Best Cut Inflorescence - Patty Gonzalez
Portea petropolitana

THERE WAS NO WINNER IN THE ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENT CATEGORY

COMING NEXT MONTH

“Not on the Head Table But Too Beautiful to Forget”

Extraordinary Show Entries From Our Members

BSSF NAT DELEON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IS AWARDED AT FAIRCHILD

On Tuesday, May 30, the Bromeliad Society of South Florida Nat DeLeon Memorial Scholarship was awarded to 2 graduating seniors at the Fairchild Biotech Magnet High School. Two members of our Community Service Committee, Carl Bauer and Maureen Adelman, were on hand to present the awards which were \$500 for each student. We gave the students a little history of Nat DeLeon, his work at Parrot Jungle and his skill at hybridizing. The winners were each presented a potted *Aechmea chantinii* 'DeLeon' along with their checks and certificates. The winners are Isabella Mendizabel and Jean Moreno-Gongora. The students were chosen by Biotech principal Amy Padolf. Both students have worked with Dr. Brian Sidoti for the past two years studying bromeliads, in particular *Tillandsia utriculata* and *Tillandsia fasciculata*. Both of these native bromeliads are threatened by the bromeliad weevil. Dr. Sidoti was the guest speaker at our July 2021 monthly general meeting and is now Director of the Kampong.

Although Miss Mendizabel was unable to attend, Mr. Moreno-Gongorra was present as his name was read. To say he was surprised and thrilled is an understatement. He thanked us multiple times and is very proud of his two year study of bromeliads. And his classmates were just as excited for him. He plans to attend Florida Central University next year. We just wish every member of our Society could have been there to witness this deserving young man's happiness. This was definitely a productive and positive use of our Society's funds and makes all the fundraising worthwhile.



Carl Bauer, Jean Moreno-Gongorra and Maureen Adelman at Fairchild.

DEAR DR. BROM

Dear Dr. Brom:

It's getting awfully hot outside and I'm worried about my plants. I'm wilting and I don't want my plants to do the same. Any advice?

Wilting is not as much a problem as sunburn. Your plants can get a sunburn just like you in the summer months. And the worst of the weather is yet to come in August and September.

I thought this would be an easy article. Just talk about sun damage and that's the end of it. Wrong. A little research revealed a number of problems to look out for during our hot, humid, rainy summers.

There was not too much on the internet on this subject so I turned to past issues of the BromeliAdvisory for more info. On our website, bssf-miami.org, you can find past advisories going back to 2008. It was fascinating reading about old members, old field trips and words of wisdom on growing bromeliads. A lot of the information I gleaned came from our bromeliad savant, Alan Herndon, in his many articles for the Advisory. Thank you, Alan.

Basically, the summer months are a time for not one but 6 problems: the sun, fertilizer use, pests and plant diseases, growth patterns, plant maintenance, and drought and dry spells.

"A seasonal change in the sun's position during the summer months can result in direct sunlight reaching a plant that will only tolerate indirect sun," per Alan. When the sun is too strong the leaves will bleach out, looking yellowish or white. Also a plant may tolerate morning sun in the summer but not the intensity of the afternoon sun. "You need to recognize changes as early as possible so that you can take action," Alan continues.

Leaf color change may be slight at first and that is the time to move your plant. A green leaf may turn yellow or a red plant becomes a lighter red. This requires regular inspection of your plants in the summer. Even better, if you know a certain location is a hot spot, you can move your plant ahead of any damage. If the hot spot is out in the landscape a good strategy is to plant your bromeliads in pots in those areas so they can be moved quickly. And your plants need to be moved to a shadier spot through mid-October.

In the summer months nutrients can be washed away by our frequent rainstorms. Even if you never fertilize, summer would be the time to make an exception. A small dose of fertilizer monthly could help. Dilute to either 1/4, 1/3 or 1/2 strength depending on who you listen to. And if you always fertilize, summer is a good time to step up your fertilization schedule.

In the summer you also need to look out for pests and diseases. Mosquitos become plentiful and can be a nuisance whether they spread Zika virus or not. Buy dunks at Home Depot, add a teaspoon of cooking oil to the cup, refresh the tank water weekly or apply *Bacillus Thuringensis* every 2-3 weeks.

All the summer rain can also contribute to fungus in your plant as the material that accumulates in the cup cannot dry out. A quick fix is to drain the water from the cup, pour in some hydrogen peroxide then drain that off and allow the plant to dry. Then put a small amount of water in the cup and monitor. Also space your plants out for good circulation to avoid further problems. How far apart? Do not let the leaves touch.

Pay attention to how your plants are growing. Your plants grow faster in the summer and may be more phototropic. If one side of your plant gets more summer sun you must turn it regularly for even growth. And always water in the morning. Afternoon or evening watering combined with frequent afternoon showers can result in overwatering which can lead to plant diseases and rot.

Summer is also the perfect time to remove pups before they get too big and lopsided. Many of our members divide their bromeliads in the summer.

The last thing to look out for during our rainy, hot summers is - drought. I should say mini-drought. Even though we don't worry so much about watering in the summer, during a dry summer spell the air temperature is not cooled by rain and plants can dry out more quickly. Per Alan, "Even three dry days during the hot months could stress your plants." So be vigilant and during summer dry spells water your plants more frequently.

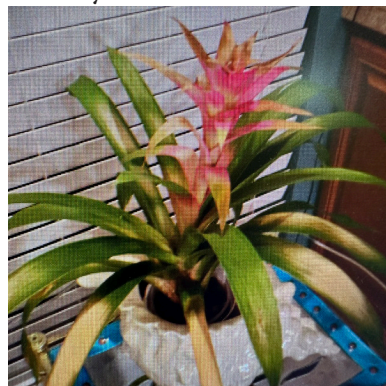
And now that you know what to do, relax and enjoy your summer.

Sources: BustlingNest.com

UF/IFAS

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society Newsletter, July 2008

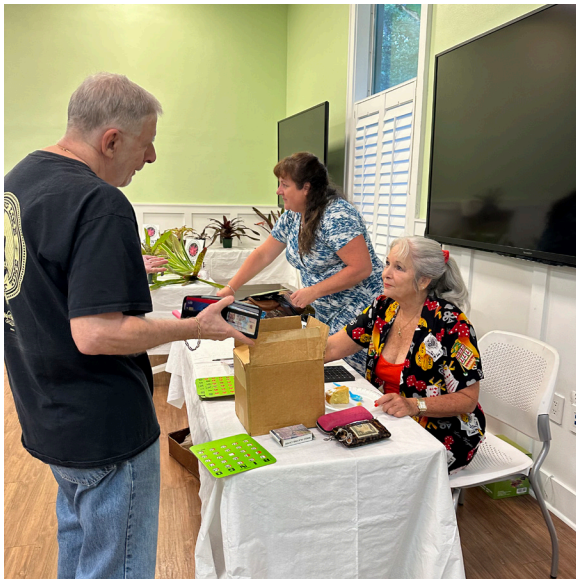
Alan Herndon, August 2009 Bromeliadvisory, "Recognizing Stress in Your Bromeliads" and other Advisory articles.



A sun damaged bromeliad

ABOUT LAST MONTH


Who doesn't like free plants? That's exactly what we had at last month's Bromeliad-Bingo bash. Everyone won something and several people were seen leaving with boxes full of plants. This was a don't miss evening. And it was attended by a number of our new members who were signed up at the show.




THE EXTRAVAGANZA IS COMING

Featuring


Chester Skotak
Costa Rica


Eloise Beach
Apopka, FL


David Shiigi
Hawaii

FCBS
& Bromeliad Society
of the Palm Beaches
presents
Bromeliad Extravaganza
July 28-29, 2023

Don't Delay, Register Today!

Hotel
Registration: West Palm Beach Marriott
1001 Okeechobee Blvd. • West Palm Beach, FL 33401
www.marriott.com

Conference
Registration: www.fcbsextravaganza.org

For more information: 561-386-7812 • tramiccio@aol.com

Undoubtedly, many of you have received this save the date card from FCBS. The weekend promises to be a fun one. There is a Friday night BBQ followed by a registrant plant sale from 7:30 to 9:30pm. On Saturday there are afternoon lectures including what is billed as Chester Skotak's final lecture. The Saturday night banquet includes a live auction and a silent auction. On Sunday there is an optional \$25 Garden Tour and Brunch. Registration is \$150 by April 30, \$175 after May 1. Rooms at the Marriott are \$139 until June 30. Parking is \$8/day. You can register online. This Extravaganza is also close to home. Mark your calendars and plan ahead.

SILENT AUCTION AND MEMBER PLANT SALE RULES

We now have unlimited silent auction plant sales. You will be paid 50% of the sale price and BSSF will receive 50%.

We will defer to our speakers for member plant sales when we have a speaker bringing plants. We will have no member plant sales on these occasions. This will give our speakers who travel here and pack up their plants a fair chance to sell their plants. When we do have member plants sales you will be paid 50% of the sale price.

To participate in member plant sales, please contact Alex Bello (bellotropicals@yahoo.com) or 239 223 6155 to schedule your sale so that we are not overrun with plants.

We appreciate your cooperation so that there will be no hard feelings if members bring plants and are turned away because we have a speaker who brought plants to sell.

SILENT AUCTION: Rene Izquierdo
(rcizquierdo@bellsouth.net)
305 282 9333

MEMBER PLANT SALES:
Alex Bello (bellotropicals @
yahoo.com)
239 223 6155

UPCOMING EVENTS

FCBS Extravaganza - W. Palm Beach
July 28-29

Redland Fruit & Spice Park
Summer Fruit Festival
June 25, 10-5

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Mango Festival, July 8 & 9

RAFFLE TABLE RULES

Raffle table tickets are now 5 for \$5.00 with a \$5.00 minimum. Still a bargain! Donations to the raffle table are greatly appreciated. You can also make 50% on the plants you bring.

CHANGES IN OUR BOARD

Our current Secretary, Leonard Goldstein, has had to resign due to pressing responsibilities at the Keem Foundation. Board member Maria Almodovar has agreed to step up to the Secretary position and Sandy Roth has agreed to take Maria's place on the Board. These changes were voted on at our June 13 Board meeting.

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
BSSF. INC.

2023 MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW MEMBERS___ AND RENEWAL___

Please print names: (Couples include both names)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ ADD'L PHONE _____

Year Joined BSSF: _____

Referred by: _____

E MAIL (you will not receive a newsletter without an email) _____

PLEASE HIGHLIGHT ANY INFORMATION ABOVE THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR

Please create my membership in BSSF, Inc. for the period of March 1, 2023 to February 28, 2024.

Check the category: Single membership _____ \$25.00

 Dual membership _____ \$35.00

Dual members enjoy all the privileges of active membership, but receive only one copy of the Bromeliadvisory.

Dues must be received by March 1, 2023 in order for you to be included in the BSSF 2023 Roster. All fees are non refundable.

Please mail completed form and check payable to BSSF, Inc. to:

Patti Gonzalez

10565 SW 109 St., Miami, FL 33176

Or email this form to:

pgonza7782@aol.com

You can pay up to 5 years at the rates above