

# **Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Newsletter**



[www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)

**May 2024**

**Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society of Tampa  
Monday, May 20, 2024, 6:30 p.m.  
Woodmont Clubhouse  
415 Woodmont Avenue  
Temple Terrace, FL**



Carol Wolfe - President

Our thanks to Ray Hernandez for his excellent program on “Chamaedorea Palms” last month. We all learned a lot more about Palms and Ray’s passion for them. Ray has been growing palms for 31 years and has over 300 species of palms in 21 genera. Some of us did not recognize the vast differences in the leaves and growth habits. Thank you, Ray, for bringing in so many great examples of palms for us to view. Thanks for the Palm book that you donated and was won by member Martha Kirby.

Congratulations for setting a record of holding the office of President of the International Palm Society longer than any other President!

Tom and I were inspired by your program and we have taken pictures to share in the newsletter for palms in our yard. We still have one unnamed palm, but we are trying to find its name. Maybe we can borrow the book from Martha!

Thanks to Kenneth Stokes for pictures of his beautiful garden and article for the FCBS May Newsletter. Marilyn sent the newsletter to our members and it can also be viewed on: <https://www.fcbs.org/newsletters/FCBS/2024/05-2024.pdf>

We hope that you are all excited about coming to the May “Picnic” as we still call it, from the days that we use to take our tables and set up under the oak trees by the bay. The club will furnish the meat, drinks, utensils and plates. So, get those cookbooks out, please bring a special covered dish, and let’s have some good food and fellowship!



If you didn't sign up, you can still come, just send Marilyn an email and let her know how many will be in your party.

We would like for everyone to choose one of your best bromeliads and donate to the auction. After dinner, we will have the auction and the lucky winners will carry home some prized bromeliads!

If you want to go to the World Bromeliad Conference in West Palm Beach, registration is still open and there has been no price increase. If you plan to go, please register right away. Our own member, Herb Hill, will be a speaker at the conference and has an exciting program about his accomplishments in hybridizing bromeliads for the last 50 years. There are speakers from various parts of the world with interesting programs, so please register soon.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Carol Wolfe



### **By Tom Wolfe**

As spring is coming to a close and summer is just around the corner, you may have noticed that it is getting hotter, windy, and dry. We know that water is essential to plants. It is absorbed from the soil by roots and released into the air by the leaves in a process called transpiration. For us, rainfall in Florida is rare in April and May. Plants may develop shallow but extensive root network to capture as much water as quickly as possible. They may develop deep tap roots to reach water supplies well below the surface. Plants that are succulents, can store water in fleshy roots, stems, or leaves.

During this time period when conditions are hot, windy and dry, watering is much more essential. If the foliage on your bromeliads shows signs of wilt or bleaching, they most likely need a healthy shot of water. On all your tank bromeliads, make sure that they have water in their cups. Although terrestrials such as Dyckias and Hechtias, which are considered succulents, will wither if the soil is not properly watered. As a side note, these terrestrials should be over potted, in bulb pans if possible, so they can capture as much water as possible.

It is advisable to choose the same two days of the week to water them so you don't forget and the plant will benefit from a consistent drink of water. If the water deficit occurs for a long time, the foliage may not be salvageable but the caudex may still be salvageable and produce a pup or two.

## **Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Minutes of Meeting March 11, 2024**

**Program** was presented by Ray Hernandez: "Chamaedorea Palms"

### **Refreshments.**

President Carol Wolfe called the meeting to order. Carol asked if there were any changes or corrections to the March minutes as they appeared in the newsletter. Motion to accept the minutes as published was made by Kenneth Stokes, seconded by Tom Wolfe

Our participation in the USF plant sale was cancelled due to parking issues.

**Raffle Review** - Tom Wolfe identified raffle plants which consisted of: neos, bilbergias, ferns, aechmeas, plus a palm tree book which was donated by Ray Hernandez

**Door Prize** - Two door prizes were given. #1 was won by Guido Zackaroff, #2 was won by Mark Victor

### **Meeting adjourned.**

### **Raffle.**

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Byram, Secretary

We appreciated Ray's programs on palms. I decided to make pictures of the palms on our property. It turned out to be fun; I looked up the botanical names. I thought you might enjoy seeing them. There are a couple of pictures, although their names include the word palm as part of their name, they are not actual palms. Can you guess which ones? If not, come to the next meeting, and we will share the answer! Thanks again, Ray, for an interesting program! Carol Wolfe



Bismarckia nobilis



Cardboard Palm



Chamaedorea Palm





*Cocos plumosa*



King Sago Palm



*Phoenix reculinata*



Ponytail Palm



Rare Palm



*Rhipidophyllum hystrix* aka  
Needle Palm.



*Phoenix roebelenii* aka  
pigmy date palm



*Rhapsis excelsa* aka Lady Palm



*Rhapsis humilis* aka Reed Palm



*Sabal palmetto* aka cabbage palm



*Serenoa repens* aka Saw palmetto



Travelers palm



## Snapshots of Meeting - April 15, 2024



Plants donated by Temple Terrace Garden Club



Call to Order - Carol Wolfe



Raffle Table Review - Tom and Carol



Plant Sale Table



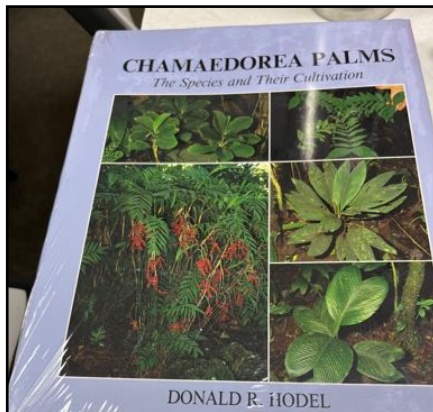
Refreshment Time



Ray Hernandez - Palm Presentation



Palms from Ray's Garden



Book Donated to Raffle by Ray Hernandez - won by Martha Kirby



Raffle Winner - Mike Foley



## Refreshments

# Annual Picnic and Auction!



**No May Birthdays**



## Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Verna Dickey of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have.  
Call 813-244-3637 or email [vernadickey@aol.com](mailto:vernadickey@aol.com)

## Officers for 2024

**Interim President:** Carol Wolfe 813-376-5251 [bromstudio@hotmail.com](mailto:bromstudio@hotmail.com)

**Vice President:** Tom Wolfe 813-391-1542 [bromscape@outlook.com](mailto:bromscape@outlook.com)

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## Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay [www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/366210778024864>

Bromeliad Society International— [www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— [www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org)

Bromeliads Online - <http://www.bromeliads.co.nz/index.html>



*Tillandsia funckiana*



The Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa was established in 1963 as the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay. In July, 2022, it expanded its focus to include other tropical plants. BTPST is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.

When: Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.

Where: Woodmont Clubhouse, 415 Woodmont Ave., Temple Terrace, FL 33617

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments  
Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BROMELIAD &  
TROPICAL PLANT  
SOCIETY OF TAMPA  
21535 Northwood Dr.  
Lutz, Florida 33549**