

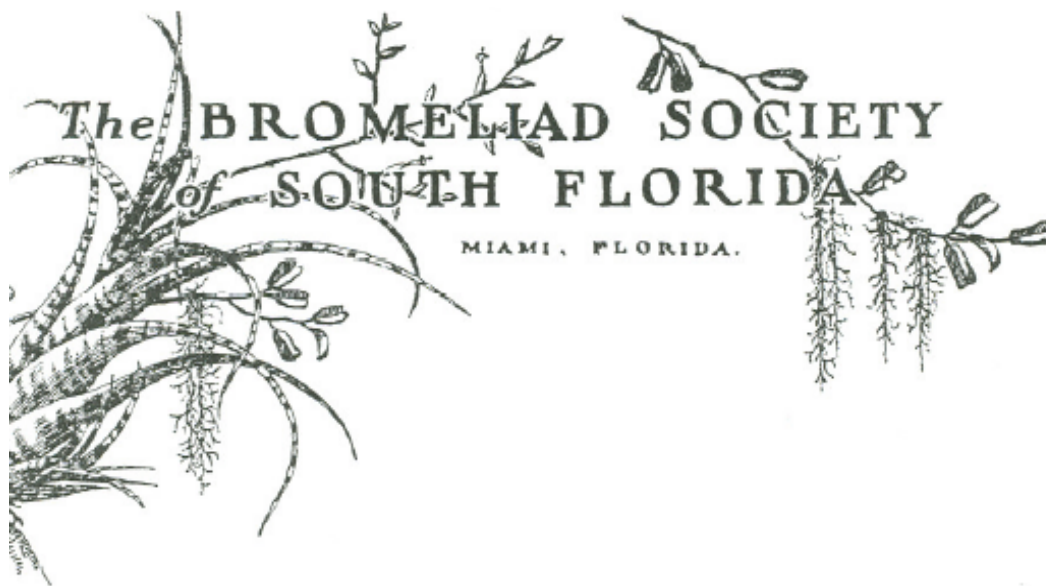
BromeliAdvisory

September 2015



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BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

September 2015

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

 http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark_t=group
 <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/84661684279>

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Mem. Plant Sales: Antonio Arbelaez
Raffle: Melissa Brail
Refreshments: Sandy Roth

What	Who
Sales Table	Antonio Arbelaez

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

SPEAKER: Robert Meyer – On the use of social media – essentially facebook and the handling of same with BSSF and other organizations.

RAFFLE TABLE: Alex Bello

FOOD: Maria S Perez, Maria & Tony Amador, Doris Boiesen

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

Robert Meyer, editor of this journal as well as the two facebook pages and the Extravaganza facebook group, will review how YOU can avoid the facebook anxiety and enter the 21st century and see the great expansions provided freely by the social media leader: facebook.

This is a simple, grass roots, elementary review of the system. No prior knowledge is needed. The purpose is to familiarize yourself with this inviting media and hopefully utilize it in the future for educational and other purposes. The world of bromeliads in the facebook arena is vast. Presently, this organization's group includes numerous parties from four continents. The worldly brotherhood of the bromeliads is more pronounced than could have been expected. And, when the respective shows of the different groups are held, the photograph processes of the facebook provide insightful revelations of what others are doing with similar or the same plants as you nurture.



President's Message

by Sandy Roth

Greetings

The time is here and we are scurrying around tying up loose ends for the EXTRAVAGANZA.



It's not too late to join in on the fun and volunteer!

We have plenty to do to make this event a success. We all can help out . . . either in a small way or a big way.

Hope to see you there

So come sign up for some fun !!

Peace n Luv

Sandy Roth

In Case You Missed It

by Leonard Goldstein

August's speaker, Jay Thurrott, is well-known to BSSF members. A resident of Port Orange, Florida, he is current president of the Bromeliad Society International (BSI). His previous presentation to the BSSF was in September 2013 on the subject of growing bromeliads from seed.

Jay's August program dealt with the BSI 2014 World Bromeliad Conference, and his very nice collection of photos of the Hawaii venue provided members with irrefutable proof of why the World Conference is never held in Nevada.

Actually, the BSI has



Lyon Arboretum

criteria other than climate and natural beauty for selecting the site for its biennial World Conference. It must be held in a major city in a hotel with conference space. That would help explain the choice of Chicago in 2004. Since then the BSI has done some globetrotting: San Diego in 2006; Cairns, the society's first venture outside the continental U.S., in 2008; New Orleans, for the third time, in 2010; and Orlando in 2012. For the 2014 conference, the Hawaii Bromeliad Society volunteered to play host, a remarkable undertaking for a society that numbers probably no more than ten.

Following a five-hour flight from California, the Florida contingent encountered a land of unparalleled visual allure, as well as certain unique traits. There are definitely different gastronomic strokes for the island folks; for instance, Jay immediately noticed the popularity of Spam© in Hawaiian cuisine. Apparently it gained a certain cachet in the islands from its use by G.I.s stationed there during World War II. Seventy years later, no less a gastronomic trendsetter than McDonald's includes Spam on its menu. *Mon Dieu!*

The Ala Moana Hotel was selected as headquarters for the World Conference. It is located adjacent to the largest open-air shopping center in the



View from our room

U.S. and just a seashell's throw from Waikiki Beach. It is also next to parkland that attracts a sizable chunk of

Hawaii's homeless population. Apparently the mantra "Location, Location, Location" works as well for the dispossessed as for the more fortunate among us.

As is customary, the first day of the World Conference was devoted to the annual BSI board meeting, which attracted a truly worldwide representation of bromeliad lovers. As is also customary, seminars have great allure to attendees, and the 2014 conference featured a grower's program. Considering that all bromeliads that are found in Hawaii had to be imported, they have become an integral part of

the state's landscaping. There are lots of bromeliad hybridizers in the island chain, including David Shiigi, whose *Guzmania* 'Kapoho Flame' has achieved great popularity with florists, along with Peter De Mello, David Fell, and Sharon Peterson.

The venerable Lyon Arboretum was the first site visit on the agenda of World Conference participants. Perched on a hillside, it is accessible by a road too narrow for tour buses. Upon entering the property, visitors from the mainland encountered enormous



Alcantareas. The year-round amenability of Hawaii's climate means that bromeliads don't need to be moved seasonally to avoid being scorched by the sun. Seemingly daily rains also make germination of bromeliad seeds easy.

From Lyon Arboretum, the group -- pressed for time everywhere it went -- moved on to the Punchbowl [the crater of an extinct volcano], now the site of a national cemetery containing many World War II casualties.

Not surprisingly, the World Conference plant sale was a huge attraction. Sales reached into the \$150-200,000 range. Because of strict regulations in Hawaii, many of the sale plants had to be brought in bare-root. (However, transport to the U.S. mainland is quite easy.) And because of the difficulty of shipping plants into Hawaii -- they are subjected to a one-year quarantine -- there was no judged bromeliad show at the 2014 conference. Instead, conference organizers encouraged exhibits.



indoor grower.

Nursery tours are among Jay's favorite activities

Jay made special mention of one attendee, Herb Plever, a resident of New York City who grows all his bromeliads indoors. He has been a BSI member since the 1950s and has written about his experiences as an

during World Conferences, and he reported that David Fell's nursery was particularly impressive, boasting perfect growing conditions. How Fell grows seedlings is interesting: He uses shredded coconut fiber in trays, then community pots, then individual seed trays. He is able to grow in five years what takes ten years to achieve in Florida.

Conference attendees also visited Sharon Peterson's nursery. Jay noted that while the land was cheap, inasmuch as it came unequipped with water and sewer service, the plants were not.

The group next hopped to Hilo for a tour of David Shiigi's nursery, as well as his personnel collection. In addition to being an excellent hybridizer, Shiigi is also an ardent cook, specializing in barbecue.

Jay commented on the flora and fauna that seem to grow wild everywhere, especially guavas, chickens and cats. [Alex Bello explained that Hurricane Iniki in 1992 destroyed a number of chicken-breeding operations, releasing a lot of stock into the wild. They're now protected by Hawaiian law.]



The next tour destination was Volcano National Park, which boasts great beauty in spite of the absence of bromeliads. The trip to

the park was not without drama: Two tires fell off the tour bus in spite of its having been serviced the night before. But fear aside, it provided a learning experience and answered the age-old question, "Why do tour buses have *four* tires on each axle?"

While Volcano National Park contained no bromeliads, it had volcanic vents in profusion. Hawaii's geologic peculiarities make its local news unusual: reportage includes lava flows encroaching at a molasses pace to residential areas.

Jay noted also having become aware of another Hawaiian practice as unique as the love of Spam. Home ownership is free to native Hawaiians. But when a native homeowner dies, his/her non-native spouse is evicted from the

property. Alas, this was never mentioned during any episode of "Hawaii Five-O."

Jay concluded his informative and pictorially engaging program by announcing that the 2016 BSI World Bromeliad Conference will be held in Houston from June 13-19.

Barbara Partagas added a poignant pairing of events that occurred during her flight home from Hawaii. The pilot announced that a Pearl Harbor survivor was on board. Then, near the end of the flight, passengers were asked to delay leaving the cabin until the body of a military casualty was removed from the plane.

Timetable for Extravaganza

Date	Item
08/25/15	Build A Raffle Basket Party
08/26/15	Deadline to Reserve Room
08/26/15	Deadline to Submit Ad
09/22/15	Deadline Register for Extravaganza – try to be earlier to guarantee
09/25/15	BSI Meeting at Doubletree
09/26/15	Extravaganza Day
09/27/15	Tours

Extravaganza

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Extravaganza-2015/680427458747123>

by Leonard Goldstein

Here's a summary of what you can expect:

The festivities begin Friday afternoon. Tickets for a 50/50 raffle will be sold starting at 4:00 (and ending the next day just before 7:00). At 6:15 you will be able to start bidding in the first of two silent auctions, followed by a meet-and-greet in the event lobby from 7:00 to 8:30. There you will be able to get acquainted with a vast array of personalities, including growers, hobbyists, plant scientists and the next day's featured speakers.

On Saturday, registrants will be able to attend morning and afternoon presentations by two highly-regarded speakers, CRAIG MORELL,

horticulturist at Pinecrest Gardens, the former Parrot Jungle, and JOSE MANZANARES, a major grower in Ecuador. Following the afternoon program, there will still be time for you to head back to the sale room to resume your bromeliad acquisitions.

At 6:00 Saturday afternoon, the first phase of the dinner will begin with a cash bar, along with the second of the silent auctions. The banquet will commence at 7:00, and a not-to-be-missed rare plant auction will run from 8:15 until 10:30.

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL!!! On Sunday optional garden tours in the Dade-Broward region will be available to registrants. Stops include Block Botanical Gardens, Pinecrest Gardens (admission fee \$5 regular and \$3 senior), and Sunshine Bromeliads, each guaranteed to be a memorable experience.

The registration fee for Friday and Saturday is \$75. If you can attend only the banquet, the fee is \$50. More information, including Extravaganza and garden tour registration forms, can be found at <http://www.bssf-miami.org/state-convention.htm>.

We look forward to seeing you in September for Bromeliads in the Magic City!

In Honor of Sara Donayre Sara S. Donayre – A Celebration of Life by Pepe Donayre

Sara was a brave and adventurous woman; she was a lover of human contact; and, she was a true giver. She was brave enough to elope with a Peruvian; and, after marrying in Boston against the wishes of her parents, arrived in a country whose culture she did not know. She literally did not know what to expect. Love gives strength, of course, but her youthful act was brave and admirable.



While I was doing academic work at my University, she was left to her own devices.

Soon, though, at stores and supermarkets she made acquaintances and was surrounded by friends – later to be life friends she introduced me to.

Once, at a cleaners, everybody started running away from the place, terror in their faces. She stayed inside and was astonished at the others' fleeing. All alone, she was bewildered until somebody returned to the site and pulled her out. The terror was derived from a strong tremor, frequent in Lima, and the native Bostonian merely thought it was just the noise of the "Underground." Even today, there is no subway in Lima! After that, many other tremors, some quite strong, never made her even blink.

She could not be just a housewife and wanted a job -- right now!. I had to talk to a notable gynecologist, a friend of mine, whose clients were mainly wives of U.S. officials in Peru. I offered to him a full English speaking nurse – my Sara. He was overwhelmed and had her working in his private practice the following day. I used to tease her by saying that I was paying him to take her as his assistant.

She was really the main motivation for me to get involved in bromeliads, always supportive and full of ideas until she became involved herself as a helper and organizer. Her energy was so overwhelming that a notable person in the FCBS once said she was a "force of nature." Boy! Was she one! And that force and energy was felt in every organization she committed herself to the following: the BSBC, as Secretary of the BSI and as an officer of our neighborhood organization the Hollywood Lakes Civic Association.

Her survival and the way she fought for almost four years until the end only testify to her strength of character and determination. I and others would not be the same without her.

Broward Co. Bromeliad Society will hold a short memorial for Sara during their regular meeting on September 14th which starts at 6:30pm. The meeting is to be held at Deicke Auditorium, 5701 Cypress Road, Plantation, FL 33317. It's a couple of blocks north of Broward Blvd. and a couple of miles west of I-95. All are welcome to attend.

If you are interested in donating in Sara's honor, her family guides you to Employment Options,

Inc. The Boston-born Sara felt attached to this program which had enriched her own family. For information about this organization, either go to their website: <http://www.employmentoptions.org/> or call – 508-485-5051 – or write to their offices at 82 Brigham Street, Marlboro, MA 01752-3137.

Another Interview With O'Flaherty

by Robert Meyer

BromeliAdvisory: So, we've heard that you have a great way to begin your days.

O'FLAHERTY: Aye. I do. I have sex with me plants.

BromeliAdvisory: Sex?

O'FLAHERTY: Aye. I hybridize each morning.

BromeliAdvisory: And, do you really enjoy doing this each morning?

O'FLAHERTY: Nae. Some are better at it than others.

BromeliAdvisory: What do you mean by that?

O'FLAHERTY: Oh, me man. You have plenty to learn about the ways of life I do see.



BromeliAdvisory: No, no, no (blushing), what I mean is how can some plants be better than others?

O'FLAHERTY: Well, first, there are certain species which really give you the goosebumps.

BromeliAdvisory: Like what?

O'FLAHERTY: Oh, always the orchids. Them girls are princesses among the others.

BromeliAdvisory: And, any excitement with the bromeliads?

O'FLAHERTY: Certain ones, yes.

BromeliAdvisory: Like which?

O'FLAHERTY: Some aechmea. Not the spiny ones, mind you. Most guzmanias, but they lack vigor. Tillandsia are too lame. But, the neoregelias, them be the dames of the ball.

BromeliAdvisory: Who would have thought.

O'FLAHERTY: Aye.

BromeliAdvisory: And what distinguishes one plant from another.

O'FLAHERTY: Like I previously said lad. You've got a lot to learn about the ways of life.

BromeliAdvisory: Well, I know my way around the human species, but must admit to having no history with plants.

O'FLAHERTY: Oh, you don't know what you are missing me lad. Oh, the ecstasy of it.

BromeliAdvisory: Ecstasy?

O'FLAHERTY: Aye.

BromeliAdvisory: Better than . . . you know . . human encounter?

O'FLAHERTY: At times.

BromeliAdvisory: Like what times.

O'FLAHERTY: You have to try it lad. I cannot describe it to a party who has lived for decades a virgin.

BromeliAdvisory: Do you know anyone else who has these feelings?

O'FLAHERTY: Aye. Many.

BromeliAdvisory: Give me one name?

O'FLAHERTY: Oh, young man, me mom raised me well. I cannot discuss others' sex lives.

BromeliAdvisory: Well, I have to tell you that in the history of the BromeliAdvisory, this conversation has never been had.

O'FLAHERTY: Aye. I must assume so. You should read the journals for the lillies and petunias. Full of such conversation.

BromeliAdvisory: Lillies?

O'FLAHERTY: Aye, a catty crowd they is.

BromeliAdvisory: Any other crowd?

O'FLAHERTY: Like I previously said, them orchids are a good crowd.

BromeliAdvisory: Princesses, no?

O'FLAHERTY: And, great ones when they sip a bit of the Jameson's, if you know what I mean.

BromeliAdvisory: Honestly, I know nothing of this conversation. Plants are without nervous systems, therefore drink cannot affect them. This whole discussion makes no sense to me.

O'FLAHERTY: Aye, you do have a lot to learn about the ways of life.

BromeliAdvisory: Enough of that already.

O'FLAHERTY: I understand, you must feel rather plain jane tis moment, no?

BromeliAdvisory: No, I feel like I am having an absurd conversation with a plant molester.

O'FLAHERTY: Watch your tongue you sassy virgin. What I say tis true, and your lack of understanding merely reflects the shallowness of your soul.

BromeliAdvisory: At this time, I feel like these past few minutes are either the least productive, or most inane, or worst used in my entire life.

O'FLAHERTY: I recommend that you hybridize a while and then after a few months look back at what you just said. You'd know fer sure that your latest words were perhaps the most innocently naive you've spoken in years.

BromeliAdvisory: You think?

O'FLAHERTY: I know.

BromeliAdvisory: Any books that you know of which can help educate me on this topic.

O'FLAHERTY: Nae.

BromeliAdvisory: Any movies you know of?

O'FLAHERTY: Nae.

BromeliAdvisory: Then how can I believe that this thing you talk about is real?

O'FLAHERTY: This is belief meshed with heart. This is much bigger than books or movies.

BromeliAdvisory: How big?

O'FLAHERTY: Religion big.

BromeliAdvisory: Then why not have a great novel or movie about such a big topic?

O'FLAHERTY: It is here lad, but below the covers. You drive any day, especially weekends, and see people toiling in yer Florida sun. What is that lad? That is religion. Those lovers of the garden are experiencing emotions, unrivaled emotions, which is what I am talking about. You probably experience the same on occasion. But, from what I see, rare occasion.

BromeliAdvisory: No need to be crass.

O'FLAHERTY: Just speaking the truth, I am.

BromeliAdvisory: Well, I think it is about time to wrap this up. Anything else you'd like to say to our society?

O'FLAHERTY: Aye. Get another interviewer. Someone with more experience. An adult. Someone who knows what I talk of. Someone who understands the emotions I experience when handling plants.

BromeliAdvisory: On that note, let us end this conversation.

O'FLAHERTY: Aye. Son, you gotta get out more often. Truly sage words of advice.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 12 & 13, 2015
Mounts Botanical Garden
Orchid Sale & Shady Affair
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Mounts Botanical Garden
559 N. Military Trail
West Palm Beach, FL
More Info: 561-233-1757 <http://mounts.org/>



September 26, 2015

Bromeliad Extravaganza
"Bromeliads in the Magic City"

711 N.W. 72nd Avenue
Miami, Florida, 33126

For Any Info:

<http://www.bssf-miami.org/state-convention.htm>
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Extravaganza-2015/680427458747123>



Saturday, October 17, 2015 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, October 18, 2015 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Broward County Plant Affair

Plantation Heritage Park
1100 South Fig Tree Lane
Plantation, FL

More Info: 954-797-2722

<http://www.broward.org/calendar/welcome.htm>



October 19, 2015
Annual BSSF Auction of Plants
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, Florida

<http://www.fairchildgarden.org/events-community-outreach>



November 7-8, 2015

35th Fall Palm Show & Sale
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, Florida

<http://www.fairchildgarden.org/events-community-outreach/events-details/artmid/486/articleid/1159/palm-show-and-sale-presented-by-south-florida-palm-society>



November 14-16, 2015

Fall Ramble – 75th Annual
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, Florida

<http://www.fairchildgarden.org/events-community-outreach>

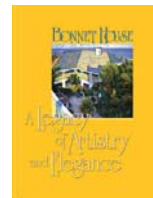


December 5 & 6, 2015

BONNET HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDEN
9TH ANNUAL ORCHID, GARDEN & GOURMET FOOD FESTIVAL

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
900 N. Birch Road just south of Sunrise Blvd. between A1A and the Intracoastal on Fort Lauderdale beach.
(954) 563-5393 or (954)925-2021.

<http://www.bonnethouse.org/news/orchid-festival/>



December 21, 2015

Annual BSSF Holiday Party
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, Florida

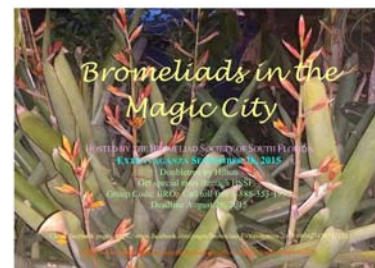
<http://www.fairchildgarden.org/events-community-outreach>

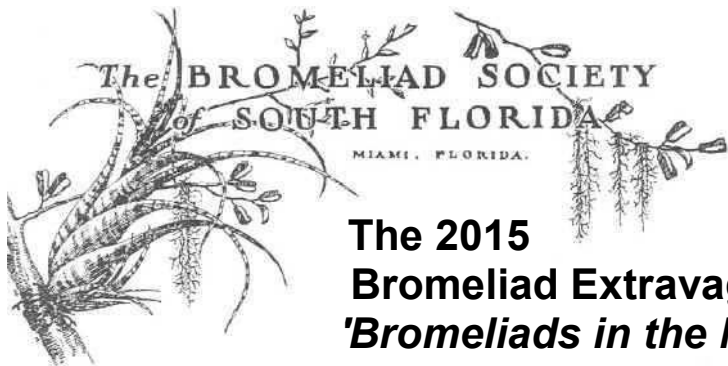


APRIL 16-17, 2016

ANNUAL RARE PLANT AND SALE FOR BSSF

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, Florida





**The 2015
Bromeliad Extravaganza®
'Bromeliads in the Magic City'**

WHAT: You're invited to attend the 2015 Bromeliad Extravaganza®
Sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
Hosted by the Bromeliad Society of South Florida
WHEN: Friday & Saturday, September 25 and 26, 2015
WHERE: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport & Convention Center

EXTRAVAGANZA REGISTRATION FORM

Extravaganza Registration Includes:

Admission to Friday Night "Meet and Greet"

Saturday: Lectures, Plant Sales, Banquet and Rare Plant Auction

Registration Fee: \$75.00 per person

Banquet Only Fee: \$50.00*

*This is only for guests of paid registrants (i.e. family, friends) attending the Florida Council Banquet and Rare Plant Auction

Please indicate the number of persons:

____ Grilled Free Range Chicken

____ Grilled Veggies with Couscous

____ Grilled Mojo Spiced Salmon

Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone/Cell/Email: _____

Bromeliad Club/Society Affiliation: _____

Checks should be payable to BSSF, Inc. and mailed to:
Fred Sussenberger, BSSF Treasurer
19731 Eagle Nest Rd.
Cutler Bay, FL 33157-8642

Refunds in the event of illness only will be considered until August 26th.
We cannot guarantee any banquet registrations received after September 22nd.

Extravaganza Hotel Rates: \$107.00 a night (plus applicable taxes) have been secured with the group code **BRO**, Bromeliads in the Magic City. For special requests, please contact the hotel directly. Visit <http://tinyurl.com/doubletree-hilton-BRO-reserve> or call group reservations at (305) 261-3800, extension 4333, toll free (888) 353-1995, FAX (305) 260-8900. Last date to qualify for the special rate is August 26, 2015 so make your reservations TODAY.
Refer to www.bssf-miami.org or www.fcbs.org for more information and important dates.