

BromeliAdvisory

November 2019



Eileen Hart's yard Photo courtesy of FCBS

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BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

November 2019

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



<http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark=group>



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

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What	Who
Sales Table	Anyone who wishes to bring plants

NOVEMBER 19, 2019 AT 7:30 PM IN CORBIN B

SPEAKER: Eileen Hart

Eileen Hart, Master Gardener and well respected grower. Eileen is well known in the horticultural community for growing bromeliads and camillas. She was born and raised on a farm in southern Georgia. Eileen's interest in plants may have first shone as a teenager when she participated in 4-H. She has been a Master Gardener since 1980 and graduated in the first Master Gardeners' program in Hillsborough County. She has been an active member of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay for many years. Eileen gives many programs to garden and bromeliad clubs. Eileen lives in Odessa, Florida on Lake Juanita in a two-story home with her husband, Robert, a retired dentist. She grows a wide variety of bromeliad species and hybrids among her extensive variety of trees. Recently, the Extravaganza invited people to the Harts' two acres of plant paradise

Raffle Table: Barbara Partagas

Food Table: Usual suspects

President's Message

This month is our Annual Meeting and Election. Please come and cast your vote for our 2020 Officers and Directors. I would truly like to thank all of my Board members for their support and enthusiasm this year.

We often hear the phrase "practice what you preach". I took that advice in September and entered plants in the Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show/International Cryptanthus Show held in Corpus Christy, Texas. Their event is similar to the FCBS Extravaganzas but it also includes a BSI Standard Show. When I was getting my plants ready at home for the Cryptanthus Show, I thought they looked pretty good and would stand a fair chance. When I got to registration, all of a sudden the plants looked a bit smaller than they did at home. Did I mention that our Southern growers grow the biggest Crypts you have ever seen? Both shows were amazing; my plants, however did not even get near the head table: two firsts and two 2nds. Look for an article and pictures about this event in the Cryptanthus Journal and the BSI Journal soon

Barbara

GETTING READY FOR THE BLOOMING MARCH SHOW

Part III
by Robert Meyer

Two months ago, we delivered a list of plants which would likely bloom during the time of the Annual Show.

Last month we reviewed that age-old question: Okay, I have the plant – what do I do with it between now and March?

This month we will start to disclose what the judges look for and how to prepare in accordance with their rules.

Your judged show is about five (5) months from the time you read this article. For the next five months, the advisory will deliver hints on what to do and how to prepare for the show with less urgency and chaos on the eve of the show,

To help guide you, a simple sheet (2 pages) follows which outline what the judges look for. In turn, the more you comply with their demands, the better you should be at the show. To alleviate some concerns, the following paragraphs shall outline easier methods to handle the concerns.

RULE 1 TO KNOW: all plants have a score of 100 when entered. The judges then look at the plant and when there are “demerit” points to be give: the plant receives such demotion. Thereafter, the tally is made, and the result is an A/B/C grade derived from the difference from the 100 less the total of the demerits.

RULE 2 TO KNOW: there are essentially two entries – those blooming (inflorescence included) and those without blooms. The box below shows how the flowering characteristic alters the judging formula. For horticultural display, the outline of differences is essentially as follows:

Criterion	Pts Bloom	Pts Foliage
Cultural Perfection	25	30
Conformation (Including Inflorescence)	15	20
Color and Markings (Exclusive Inflorescence)	15	25
Overall Balance and Symmetry	15	15
Inflorescence	20	0
Maturity of the Plant	10	10
TOTAL	100	100

Essentially, the inflorescence delivers 20 points which are absorbed by the nonblooming plants granting additional points for Cultural Perfection (5 extra), Conformation (5 extra) and Color and Markings (10 extra).

RULE 3 TO KNOW: When looking to the extensive sheets which follow, you will notice there are approximately 1.2 points allocated to each criterion. So, in a mathematically perfect world, a dirty container may only cost a demerit of 1.2 points. But, three of four of those little scuffs will mean a total demerit of 5-7 points. In turn, that plant drops from blue ribbon to red ribbon. That plant drops from being considered for the table, to

becoming devoid of consideration. So, take care of the easy things: clean pots; centering of plant in pot; right soil mix; right amount of mix; putting plant in proper light to avoid burning or leaf tip damages or elongation; moving plant if size on one side ruins symmetry . . . These are the things to do **now**. If you have really good plants, now is the time to repot. Use good mix. Use a clean pot. Use the right amount of mix. If you do this on eve of the show, judges will demerit a plant if it looks like it repotted only days before.

Within this rule are subcategories. Buy new clean plain pots – use the green ones you see everywhere with a slight plastic gloss. **Nothing** which deviates

from the nurseryman's plain pot (think green or black) will be deemed standard. The rest? What happens to them? Many go to decorative container and not in the running for plant competition.

Soil height. Never too high. Look to the point where the pot beings to jet out. The lip. A little above this, at most. If you use top soil or mix , use refined stuff. Not the mulch for the yard's beds.

So after you repotted the plant into clean pot, with clean soil, topped with clean mix, can you walk away for five months? Maybe. Do an occasional check for the first few weeks. Make sure the plant is happy where laid to sun. And, when the winter is ending, remember the sun's intensity increases. That

spot which the plant loved in December may be a roasting place for March – just before the show. Keep careful watch.

RULE 4 TO KNOW: Later we will discuss the things to do on the eve of the show. And, there is plenty. You need to do that last cleaning, last pot cleaning, removal of dust/debris/water spots/mineral deposits, and trim the leave properly.

In the meantime, look at the sheets at the end of this Advisory. Familiarize yourself with the judges' rules so that you better play the plant competition game.

MESSAGES

Passing of Members

THOMAS PAUL STEINMETZ, Minnesota
Oct 11, 1923 – Oct 12, 2019. Known as "Tom", he was a life member with the BSSF for decades. He and his wife, Nancy, were cornerstones to the society. The BSSF lost a lot when he and Nancy moved to Minnesota to be near their growing family. Nancy, another life member, survives Tom as do children and grandchildren.

BARBARA SPARLING, Miami
Octo 31, 1931 - Nov 5, 2019 Known as the best baker to the board, known as the woman who handled the winners table at our annual shows to attendees, and known as reliable and needed member to the BSSF. For all of her work, Barbara was named a life member of the BSSF. Her work on membership was so successful that she even had her own daughter, Terri Tallale, join. Last year, when health issues affected her , the winners-table responsibility was delivered to Terri who very graciously accepted. Services were held November 9, 2019 in Miami at which many BSSF members attended.

Badges Wear Them

We make some pretty neat badges. They help our fogged aged memories for names. Starting next month, anyone who wants a door prize *must* be wearing a name badge. This way we will better address one another by name. FYI – do not put the badge onto anything which may be affected

NEW MEMBERS PLEASE COLLECT BADGES

We have 16 new members. Your membership entitles you to Membership Badges. We have them. Come to our meeting and pick them up. Ask for Maureen. She holds the badges.

BECOME A BSI JUDGE

Contact Betty Ann Prevatt.
\$25.00 first lesson
Application available at the Meeting
Contact Alex Bello

BOARD SLATE FOR ELECTION

PRESIDENT	MAUREEN ADELMAN
VP	OLIVIA MARTINEZ
TREASURER	SANDY ROTH
SECRETARY	LEONARD GOLDSTEIN
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WRITE IN	
WRITE IN	

UPCOMING EVENTS



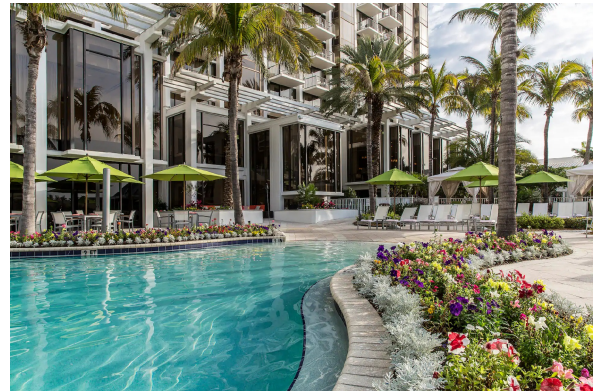
**Signup for BSI
Membership
& Register for
WBC 2020**

Tropiflora's Winter Sale

Dec 6-7, 2019
8AM to 4PM
3530 Tallevast Rd,
Sarasota, FL 34243

Gardenfest

Feb 1-2, 2020
9AM to 4PM
Riverside Park,
3250 Riverside Park Drive
Vero Beach, FL 32963



BSSF Annual Spring Show

March 26-29, 2020
Garden House
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, FL 33156

The World Bromeliad Conference 2020 will be held in Sarasota, Florida, USA from Tuesday, June 9, 2020 through Saturday, June 13, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota. We will celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the Bromeliad Society International! Events will include tours of two of the world's leading Bromeliad nurseries (Michael's Bromeliads and Tropiflora), a visit to the renowned Marie Selby Botanical Gardens (with free admission for conference registrants), a number of notable speakers, an opening conference reception and welcome address, a banquet with a rare plant sale and auction, a plant sale with numerous sellers, a fantastic judged plant show, and more.

Orchid and Bromeliad Show

April 1, 2020
Flamingo Gardens
3750 S Flamingo Rd
Davie, FL

Redland International Orchid Show

May 1, 2020
Fruit & Spice Park
24801 SW 187th Ave, Homestead, FL

The BSI has arranged for a special \$149 room rate at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota (with no resort fees, normally \$24+ daily) with free parking for hotel guests and conference visitors. In order to catch all the planned events for WBC 2020, you would check into the hotel on Tuesday night, June 9th and stay through Saturday night, June 13th (checking out on Sunday).

BSI Members may register for the hotel and conference by going to the members section. We recommend reserving your hotel room as soon as possible since a limited number of rooms at the special rate are available.

Concept for Horticultural Display Bloom

Cultural Perfection

- 1 Mount/Container is clean
- 2 Mount/Container in good condition
- 3 Mix is clean
- 4 Mix is right depth

- 5 Are leaves badly damaged
- 6 Are leaves trimmed properly (fix prior issue)
- 7 Are leaves poorly trimmed
- 8 Are leaves drastically trimmed
- 9 Is there excessive leaf removal
- 10 Is the leaf removal complete or incomplete
- 11 Are the areas between leaves wide or narrow
- 12 Are there gaps between leaves
- 13 Are some leaves too elongated
- 14 Are some leaves folded
- 15 Are some leaves channeled
- 16 Are there water spots
- 17 Is there algae
- 18 Is there dust
- 19 Is there debris
- 20 Are there insects

There are **25** points here among approximately **20** criteria

Conformation (Including Inflorescence)

- 1 Plant is symmetrical radially (viewed from above)
- 2 Plant is symmetrical laterally (viewed from the side)
- 3 Stem is straight

- 4 Contour shows destruction
- 5 Gaps between leaves
- 6 Excessive grooming
- 7 Incomplete grooming
- 8 Leaves are appropriate shape
- 9 Leaves are appropriate width
- 10 Leaves are appropriate length
- 11 Leaves are appropriate in number for species
- 12 There are two stages of growth

There are **15** points here for approximately **11** criteria

Color and Markings (Exclusive of Inflorescence)

- 1 Color is maximal for this species
- 2 Color is clear and vibrant
- 3 Color is evenly distributed

- 4 There are no color breaks
- 5 Markings are typical for this variety
- 6 Markings are evenly distributed
- 7 Markings are clear and intense
- 8 Scurf is marred in certain areas

There are **15** points for approximately **8** criteria

Overall Balance and Symmetry, Permanence

- 1 Extremely well balanced, growth all around
- 2 Growth is slightly off balance
- 3 Growth is drastically off balance
- 4 The shape and size of mount/container is appropriate for the plant
- 5 The plant or plants appear(s) stable
- 6 The entry looks well established
- 7 Plant appears to be in its home
- 8 Entry looks permanent

There are **15** points for approximately **8** criteria

Inflorescence

- 1 Size: Optimal/Average/Small/Immature
- 2 QUANTITY: Well Branched
- 3 There are many mature flowers
- 4 Inflorescence is appropriate for this species/variety
- 5 QUALITY: Scape is undamaged
- 6 Floral bracts are undamaged
- 7 Spent blooms and bracts removed
- 8 COLOR: Flowers are bright
- 9 Flowers not faded
- 10 Floral and Scape bracts are clear -- not muddy
- 11 Both sides of inflorescence are uniformly and attractively colored

There are **20** points for approximately **11** criteria

Maturity of the Plant

Optimal or 3/4 or 1/2 or Very immature or Vary Overgrown

This is for **10** points

Concept for Horticultural Display Foliage

Cultural Perfection

- Mount/Container is clean
Mount/Container in good condition
- Mix is clean
Mix is right depth

- Are leaves badly damaged
Are leaves trimmed properly (fix prior issue)
Are leaves poorly trimmed
Are leaves drastically trimmed
Is there excessive leaf removal
Is the leaf removal complete or incomplete
Are the areas between leaves wide or narrow
Are there gaps between leaves
Are some leaves too elongated
Are some leaves folded
Are some leaves channeled
Are there water spots or mineral deposits
Is there algae
Is there dust
Is there debris
Are there insects

There are **30** points here among approximately **20** criteria

Conformation (Including Inflorescence)

- Plant is symmetrical radially (viewed from above)
Plant is symmetrical laterally (viewed from the side)
Stem is straight

- Contour shows destruction
Gaps between leaves
Excessive grooming
Incomplete grooming
Leaves are appropriate shape
Leaves are appropriate width
Leaves are appropriate length
Leaves are appropriate in number for species
There are two stages of growth

There are **20** points here for approximately **11** criteria

Color and Markings (Exclusive of Inflorescence)

- Color is maximal for this species
Color is clear and vibrant
Color is evenly distributed

- There are no color breaks
Markings are typical for this variety
Markings are evenly distributed
Markings are clear and intense
Scurf is marred in certain areas

There are **25** points for approximately **8** criteria

Overall Balance and Symmetry, Permanence

- Extremely well balanced, growth all around
Growth is slightly off balance
Growth is drastically off balance
The shape and size of mount/container is appropriate for the plant
The plant or plants appear(s) stable
The entry looks well established
Plant appears to be in its home
Entry looks permanent

There are **15** points for approximately **8** criteria

Maturity of the Plant

Optimal or 3/4 or 1/2 or Very immature or Vary Overgrown

This is for **10** points

Concept for Foliage Plant

Cultural Perfection

Container is clean
Container in good condition -- not chipped
Container is right size
Mix is clean
Mix is right depth
Plant is centered
Plant is right depth in container
Are leaves badly damaged
Are leaves trimmed properly (fix prior issue)
Are leaves poorly trimmed
Are leaves drastically trimmed
Is there excessive leaf removal
Is the leaf removal complete or incomplete
Are the areas between leaves wide or narrow
Are there gaps between leaves
Are some leaves too elongated
Are some leaves folded
Are some leaves channeled
Are there water spots or mineral deposits
Is there algae
Is there dust
Is there debris
Are there insects

There are 30 points here among approximately 23 criteria

Conformation

Plant is symmetrical radially (viewed from above)
Plant is symmetrical laterally (viewed from the side)
Stem is straight
Cup hads not been pulled off-center
Contour shows destruction
Gaps between leaves
Excessive trimming

Leaves are appropriate shape
Leaves are appropriate width
Leaves are appropriate length
Leaves are appropriate in number for species
There are two stages of growth

There are 30 points here for approximately 12 criteria

Color and Markings

Color is maximal for this species
Color is clear and vibrant
Color is evenly distributed
Color is lighter on one side
There are no color breaks
Markings are typical for this variety
Markings are evenly distributed
Markings are clear and intense
Scurf is marred in certain areas

There are 30 points for approximately 9 criteria

Maturity of the Plant

Optimal or 3/4 or 1/2 or Very immature or Vary Overgrown

This is for 10 points

BromeliAdvisory Emerging With Paperless Services

The 21st century has created a great opportunity to obtain notices about this organization, and others, through the internet. In the next few months we are trying to wean paper users from requiring us to mail to you. You can obtain hard copies by merely pulling up the BromeliAdvisory with your email receipt or by going online to our webpage: www.bssf-miami.org. By complying with this request, you will alleviate us from responsibilities, save the environment, and reduce costs to the organization.

Join BSI More Cheaply

If you have **never** been a member of BSI, there is a discount being offered to new members. Go to www.bsi.org/new/join-the-bsi-or-renew/

\$15 is the price.