

BromeliAdvisory

January 2020



Photo by Desiree Meyer

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BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

January 2020

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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What	Who
Sales Table	Open to All
Silent Auction	Rene Izquierdo

JANUARY 21, 2020

SPEAKER: Speaker: Potting – See page 6 at Corbin A

RAFFLE TABLE: Alex Bello

FOOD: Usual Suspects

President's Message

It's a new year, a new beginning for our society and a chance for us all to rededicate ourselves to our love of bromeliads. Our Board has been busy researching activities, speakers and projects for our members for the coming year. At January's meeting we will be planting containers and giving tips for decorative container entries for our show. This is a good opportunity for some hands on experience and a chance to get to know our fellow members a little better. And a chance to have fun. We must have fun! Our next field trip is probably February 1: Bromeliad Specialties Nursery, Tradewinds Tropicals Nursery and White Lion in Homestead for lunch. This is a chance for our members to get to know the wonderful resources in the Redlands. A second tentative field trip is April 1: Flamingo Gardens and the Morikami Museum in Delray. There are horticultural treasures all around us and we want you to experience them. Finally, our annual show is March 26 to the 29th this year. There are many many opportunities for you to participate no matter what your interests are. Remember you get out of this society what you put in – so please volunteer and become a part of our show family.

See you at the meeting.

Maureen Adelman

GETTING READY FOR THE BLOOMING MARCH SHOW

Part IV
by Robert Meyer

Four months ago, we delivered a list of plants which would likely bloom during the time of the Annual Show. Three months ago, we reviewed that age-old question: Okay, I have the plant – what do I do with it between now and March? Two months ago, we will started to disclose what the judges look for and how to prepare in accordance with their rules.

This month, we essentially give a timeline of what to do, and when, in relation to the plants you wish to bring to the Show.

Time is moving at a rapid pace. The time to think about the Spring Show is now.

Below is a sample idea of what to do with the remaining weeks before the Spring Show.

Weeks to Show	What To Do	Comment
10	Review your plants. If pots are bad, repot. If plants are overcrowded, divide.	If you wait until 5 weeks from the show to perform these tasks, it will be probably be too late.
9	Review plants again. Maybe put some slow fertilizer under the soil.	Do not use strong fertilizer as too many awkward things could happen.
8	Buy clean items for the plants: pots, cleaners, good soil, good new topcover.	Sometimes topcover should be exposed to elements and settle into the pot. That is one reason to get it now.
7	Keep an eye out for large plants' inflorescences. See if some may be ready for show's date for inflorescence exhibit.	Other "pretty" parts may be used for artistic category. Chop shop approach to some plants may be needed when the inflorescence is a ten but the plant is a five.
6	Clean plant [Part I]. Get the little leaves and stuff out.	This is one of the least fun parts of the show, but you gotta do it. Spreading it out over weeks helps.
5	Sunburn avoidance time. If you do not have shade house, this is when the sun returns to our neck of the woods, or soon will.	Rearrange position where plant is to avoid the burn spots. Burns are never fun and always taboo to the judge.
4	Clean plan [Part II] This may the end of the cleaning.	Make sure soil is good a well.
3	Putting babies to bed. Placing plants in protective places so that nothing will affect plants for this one-month period prior to the Show.	If you have a porch, this may be the time to bring the plants in.
2	Shopping for artistic. This is the time to see what wood or pot or plant you may want to use for these types of nontraditional entries.	Stay away from plants at this time, let them rest in the shaded area of your residence.
1	Cleaning plant [Part III] If last two did the job, this may be a nonevent. Clean pots with car wax or other cleaner. Topsoil should be finished.	This is busy work week.
<1	Nothing for Show Plants, unless cleaning procrastination occurred. This should be artistic arrangement time.	You can actually buy plant this late in the game for artistic. Not a bad idea as the later, the better.

Why Enter Plants in a Judged Show?

By Robert Meyer

The BSSF Annual Show will soon be upon us, and you can expect to hear the pleas to enter plants often in the coming months. Why should you do this? .

Entering plants in the show helps this society fulfill its mission of promoting bromeliads to the general public. The annual show is our major opportunity to advertise both our plants and our society. Historically, BSSF attracts many new members through the annual show.



In order to take full advantage of the opportunity presented by the Annual Show, we need a wide range of entries. Given the rigid schedule for our show, species and hybrids of *Neoregelia* are the plants most readily available for entry. But, we need good representation of other genera.

Making the effort to grow plants for the show will turn you into a better bromeliad grower. Even if you pick plants from the garden two weeks before the show (that would put you firmly in the majority of exhibitors), you will

learn to recognize when plants are growing well. You will become attuned to the form and color of plants. You will learn to

recognize the superior plants in your collection. You will become more discriminating in obtaining new plants. This will lead to better-informed placements of plants, and, overall, a better looking garden

If these high-minded reasons are not sufficient, there is always the crass personal lure of the crystal awards and bragging rights. The crystal awards are not available in

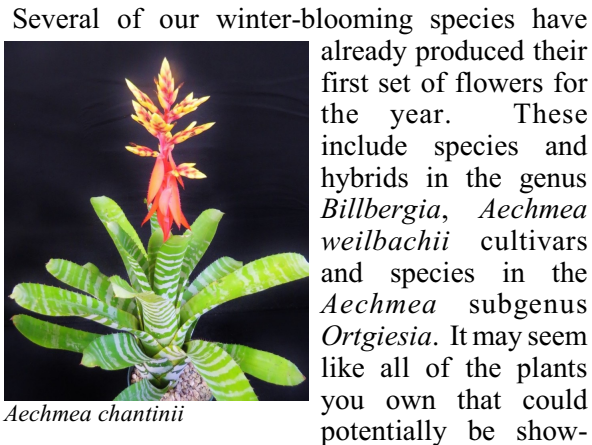
your corner store (not even your corner glass store), so even your non-bromeliad friends will recognize your uniqueness.

Most bromeliad growers will produce a spectacular plant or two every year – even if by accident. We ask that you keep an eye out for these specimens; and, please enter them into the show.

RENEW MEMBERSHIPS,
NOW

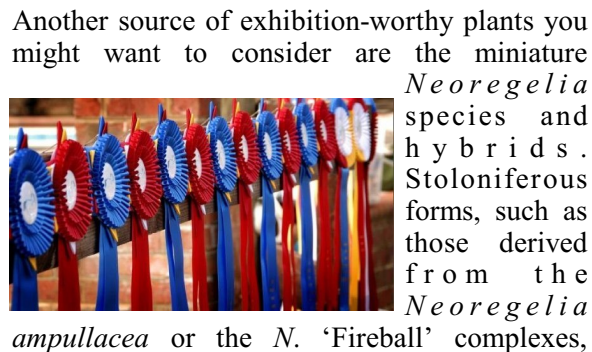
Start Preparing Your Bromeliads for the Show

by Alan Herndon



Several of our winter-blooming species have already produced their first set of flowers for the year. These include species and hybrids in the genus *Billbergia*, *Aechmea weilbachii* cultivars and species in the *Aechmea* subgenus *Ortgiesia*. It may seem like all of the plants you own that could potentially be show-worthy by the end of March have already past their peak, but don't despair just yet. Many of these plants have pups that will grow rapidly enough to bloom again by the time the show comes around. Set these plants aside and let the pups grow out. If the old mother rosette is interfering with the growth of the pup(s) you can start removing the upper halves of the leaves of the mom. Closer to the time of the show, you can decide whether the plants will look better as individuals or as clumps. If you have the room to keep several pots of the same plant on hand, you can increase your chance of having a blooming plant for exhibit.

A few of the larger *Neoregelia* species - including *N. compacta*, *N. macwilliamsii* and the closely related cultivar *N. 'Bossa Nova'* - also bloom naturally during winter and early spring months. If you have a pot with a good-looking specimen of one of these plants - either a single rosette or a group of multiple rosettes - set it aside. With luck, you will have the plant come into bloom in time for the show.



produce clumps with strong visual appeal. In addition, these miniatures are more likely to bloom during the cool months than the larger, typically spring-flowering species. Flowers are only open for a short period in these plants, so you need some luck to exhibit them in flower.

Don't forget that non-blooming bromeliads have always been an important part of our annual shows. With *Neoregelia* hybrids in particular, colorful foliage is usually more attractive than the inflorescence. In other plants with colorful or boldly marked foliage, including *Aechmea chantinii*, the *Aechmea orlandiana* complex, most *Billbergia* hybrids and many of the *Vriesea* hybrids, the non-blooming plant is more than pretty enough to exhibit.

Don't neglect plants with unusual shapes either. An interesting shape or prominent marginal leaf spines can be as interesting as leaf color.

A Sweepstakes award exists for growers who are still in the learning phase. As in past shows, true beginners can compete in the Novice class until they begin to earn Blue ribbons for their entries. Once you earn a Blue ribbon, you are promoted to the Intermediate class.



An Intermediate Sweepstakes exists for growers who have graduated to the Intermediate level, but are not yet ready to take on the most experienced growers. Only growers in the Intermediate level will be eligible for this award. Otherwise, the rules will be the same as in the Sweepstakes award we have followed in the past. Only plants exhibited in the Blooming Bromeliad, Non-blooming Bromeliad and Habitat Divisions will be considered for the award. Up to 20 plants may be entered into the competition for the Intermediate Sweepstakes award. You may always enter more

plants in the show, but you will have to designate the twenty that will be considered eligible for the Sweepstakes before judging starts.

Also, note that **you must have entries in at least 5 sections within the three Divisions listed above to be entered into the Sweepstakes competition** and that entries in the Artistic Division are not included in the calculations for either Sweepstakes award so they do not count against the 20 eligible entries. For each exhibitor, an eligible entry earning a Blue Ribbon is assigned a value of 1 point and a value of 2 points is assigned to each AM Ribbon. The exhibitor with the highest total number of points wins. In case of a tie between exhibitors after this calculation, Major and Special Awards are added to the calculation on the basis of 1 point for a Bronze level award, 2 points for a Silver level award and 3 points for a Gold level award.

You can remain in this Intermediate class until you accumulate 10 Silver level awards. These are Best of Section awards – such as Best Blooming Aechmea, Best Blooming Habitat or Best Non-blooming Neoregelia. Once you have won so many awards at that level, you know everything you need in order to compete with anyone and are moved to the Expert class. Silver level awards in the Artistic Division are not counted since these entries are not included in the Sweepstakes competition.



In summary, you should look over the plants in your collection now. **Bromeliads that have the potential to develop into good show plants by the middle of March should be noted and given a good cleaning.** If possible, these plants should be separated so there is no overlap between the leaves of adjacent plants, and placed in an area relatively protected from wind. Don't expect all of the plants you set aside to develop in the way you hope for, but you are increasing the odds of having exhibit-worthy plants on hand when the show arrives.

Taking these steps now will greatly reduce the amount of work needed, and help ensure that we have a good supply of beautiful plants on the tables for the show.

Using Assorted Containers to Pot or Display Bromeliads

by Olivia Martinez

In place of a speaker, we will be having a hands-on mini workshop during the meeting of January 21st. We will strive to show the creative use of different types of containers for potting or displaying Bromeliads. To that purpose, we will make available to the members containers of different types and sizes for sale from \$3 to \$7 each. Plants in varying sizes will also be available for sale.

You may alternatively bring your own plant and/or container to learn how to use it to best advantage. Remember, if you choose to enter a plant in a decorative container in the show, it could be of any size, shape, color, or design. Or, you can just enjoy it yourself in your own home.

Also the workshop will provide soil, floral wire, tape, glue, wooden picks and other items which may be needed for the task. Some of our experienced members will be your consultants.

If you have any questions, call Olivia at 786-457-6483, or email her at oliv43@aol.com.

See you there. I'm sure we'll have fun!



MESSAGES

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

BECOME A BSI JUDGE

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

ROAD TRIP FEBRUARY 1, 2020

Three stops
10:00 AM: Tradewinds Tropicals
16400 SW 240 Street
11:30 Bromeliad Specialties
28001 SW 197 Ave
3. White Lion
146 NW 7 Ave, Homestead

If you want, meet at 9:30 at Maureen Adelman's home – 9421 SW 134 Street – for a caravan meeting. Maybe pick up a ride with others

CRYSTAL

Thanks to the following for donating crystal to the Show: Robert Meyer, Barbara Partagas, Maureen Adelman, Sandy Roth, Patty Gonzalez, Elaine Mills, Virginia Shrenker and Barbara Sparling.

Donate Your Crystal to our Show which then will return it to you when you win awards., contact Skye Palmer.

SILENT AUCTION

There will be a Silent Auction at the Next Meeting

BSSF SHOW SCHEDULE COMING TO YOU – KEEP EYE OPEN FOR THE EMAIL COMING TO YOU

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.

ADVERTISE in the SHOW BOOK

Cheap Prices
Good Cause
Contact any board member.



Guzmania Cousin ITT
PHOTO by Brenda Neuman

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1, 2020

ROAD TRIP

10AM to ?

10:00 Tradewinds Tropicals

11:30 AM Bromelaid

Specialties

12ish: Whit Lion for LUNCH

Addresses provided on PAGE 6

Plants for Sale

Food at the end



March 21-22, 2020

Garden Fest Plant Extravaganza

9AM to 4PM

Volunteer Park,

12050 W Sunrise Blvd

Plantation, Florida 33323



March 28-29, 2020

Annual Show and Sale

10901 Old Cutler Road

Coral Gables, FL 33156



April 4, 2020

Orchid & Bromeliad Show

Flamingo Park

3750 S. Flamingo Rd,

Davie, FL 33330-1614

954- 473-2955



May 15-17, 2020

Redland International

Orchid Show

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Fruit & Spice Park

24801 SW 187th Ave, Homestead, FL

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Form is attached, get filled out form to Terri Tallale, and deliver payment to Fred before the deadline which is coming sooner than later.

WHO



WHAT

Biannual World Conference

WHEN

June 9-13, 2020

WHERE



Hyatt Regency Sarasota
1000 Boulevard of the Arts,
Sarasota, Florida, United States,
34236

HOW TO REGISTER

<https://www.bsi.org/new/world-bromeliad-conference-registration/>
1/31/2020 Deadline for EARLY registration reduced fee



Guzmania Sanguinea
PHOTO by Skye Palmer

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
BSSF, Inc.
2020 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

(PLEASE PRINT) NAME(S) _____

(Couples - please include BOTH first names)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____

ADD'L. TEL. _____

Year Joined BSSF: _____

Referred by: _____

Include e-mail address in the roster? (Y/N) Yes No

E-mail BromeliAdvisory? (Y/N) Yes No (You will not receive a hard copy)

EMAIL _____

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR,
PLEASE **HIGHLIGHT** OR UNDERLINE

Please renew my(our) membership in the BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
for the period of March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

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, 2020, IN ORDER FOR YOU TO BE
INCLUDED IN THE 2020 ROSTER**

Please mail completed form and check

(Payable to BSSF, Inc.) to:

Terri Tallale
17201 SW 86 Avenue
Palmetto Bay, FL 33157

Or E-Mail this form to:

elwood172@comcast.net

You can pay up to 5 years at the rates
described above. All payments are
NONREFUNDABLE