



February 2022

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



Facebook- Public  
Bromeliad Society of South Florida

[http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSSF/?bookmark\\_t=group](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/2021/11-2021.pdf>

#### DIRECTORS

Maureen Adelman, Past President  
Tina Severson, President  
Karen Bradley, VP  
Olivia Martinez, Treasurer  
Lenny Goldstein, Secretary  
Maureen Adelman with Stephanie LaRusso, Editor  
Sandy Roth, Director  
Barbara Partagas, Director  
Maria Almodovar, Director  
Heidi Davenport, Director

#### COMMITTEES

Advertising: Samantha Jones  
Door Prize: Alan Herndon  
Education: Alan Herndon  
Hospitality: Elaine Mills  
Library: Barbara Partagas  
Membership: Patty Gonzalez/Melody Ray  
Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello  
Refreshments: Sandy Roth  
Field Trips: Lori Weyrick  
Community Service: Carl Bauer

February 15, 2022 **LIVE MEETING 7:30 PM**  
**GARDEN HOUSE**  
**SPEAKER: Roger Hammer, Native and Florida**  
**Friendly exotics Attracting Hummingbirds/Butterflies**  
**Food Donations Appreciated - Win the prize**  
**No member plant sales/Limited Silent Auction**

#### BSSF Covid Rules

To Insure Your Safety the Following are Covid Rules for In-Person Meetings:

- MASKS ARE REQUIRED
- FOOD WILL BE SERVED. PLEASE SIT WHILE EATING
- There will be one entry and one exit at the back of the Garden House. The kitchen entry will be locked.
- If you do not feel well or have a temperature – please stay home
- Seating will be 6 feet apart. Family members or social bubble members may sit together.
- Social distancing will be observed at raffle table, silent auction table and food table.
- Dsinfecting wipes, and hand sanitizer will be available at the entry.

**NEW SHOW DATES!**

**PENDING**

## President's Message

Happy Valentine's Day, everyone! Just a reminder that membership renewals are due for 2022. We value each one of you and it is so important for us to keep our membership active even if we are still reserved about attending meetings. We will continue to wear masks and social distance. We are very fortunate to have as our speaker this month Roger Hammer, author and naturalist. He will be presenting a power point on native and Florida friendly exotic plants that attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Please remember to invite your family and friends to our meetings.

TINA SEVERSON

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Roger Hammer is a retired senior naturalist from Miami-Dade Parks Department where he worked for 33 years as manager of the Castellow Hammock Nature Center. He also has been a part time instructor and field trip leader for Fairchild Garden for 22 years.

In 2010, Roger received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Native Plant Society, Tropical Audobon Society, and the North American Butterfly Association. He has received numerous other awards from these societies also.

He was the opening speaker of the American Orchid society's 100 year Centennial Celebration at the Biltmore in 2022. He has been the keynote speaker at the Florida Native Plant Society state conference in 1997 and 2013. He also spoke at

the World Orchid Conference in 1984 and 2008.

He is on the Board of Directors of the Tropical Audobon Society and is a survivalist instructor for the Discovery channel reality TV show, Naked and Afraid.

He is the author of numerous books and field guides on Florida native plants and wildflowers as well as guides to the Everglades and Biscayne National Parks. We are most fortunate to have him as our speaker this month.



## GARAGE SALE

The garage sale was an outstanding success, raising over \$1,000 for our continued programming, show and public service projects. Thank you to everyone who contributed and/or purchased items.

## SHOW CORNER

by Barbara Partagas , Show Chairman

Tip of the Month: Continue to be vigilant and to keep your potential entries out of the wind and cold.

New Show dates will be announced shortly.

We need volunteers to help in the following areas:

Awards Donations (phone solicitations)  
Call members for donations for crystal

Awards Placement: Place winning plants on stage on Friday afternoon/evening

Member Sales Table: Selling plants outside Saturday and Sunday.

Set up: Thursday morning.

Keep watching your plants for the ones that stand out. You should not be fertilizing these plants now to keep their colors at their best.

## CRYSTAL DONATIONS

## WELCOME

Contact Barbara Partagas

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Time again for our annual membership drive.

If you recall BSSF did not charge dues for 2021 as we felt we had not been able to offer quality programming. For 2022 we are back to our great speakers, refreshments and the socializing that our members love.

Please take a moment to renew your membership. The renewal form is at the back of the Advisory. Dues remain \$25.00 per person and \$35.00 per couple. Cash or check.

The dues help provide funds for our speakers, refreshments, rent for Fairchild, and fees for our annual show among many other things.

The deadline for renewal is March 1, 2022 in order for you to be included in the FCBS roster.

You can also sign up at our meetings. Please see Patty Gonzalez, membership Chair.

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HAPPY 95th BIRTHDAY TO BSSFs SWEETHEART, ELAINE MILLS!



## DEAR DR. BROM

Dear Dr. Brom,

The annual show is approaching and I am feeling creative. I want to do an artistic arrangement but am confused as to what judges are looking for.

Any ideas?

Artistic arrangement is probably the most confusing category in the entire show. That is because it is difficult to quantify creativity.

“An artistic arrangement is a floral design of bromeliad foliage, inflorescences, roots, and stolons used alone or in combination with other plants materials and organized according to the principles of design to express beauty. Bromeliads must be emphasized and no artificial plants material can ever be used.”

It must evoke emotion from the viewer which is why themes are so helpful.

A small card stating the title/theme is placed beside the arrangement.

Bases, backgrounds and accessories can be used. Dried plant material can be painted but never fresh plant material.

Plants do not have to be grown by the entrant and can be purchased or borrowed just before the show. The arrangement can be any size but keep in mind the difficulties of transporting a larger piece without damage.

“The purpose of an artistic arrangement is to educate the public to the many decorative uses of bromeliads

throughout the home.” You could do a mask, a mobile, a bouquet or a traditional arrangement among many others. You must strive for unity, arrange harmoniously, feature some plants and use others as background: create a design that speaks for itself with no need for explanation. As in all art forms, design principles govern

The Principles of Design are:

1. Balance - stability of design side to side, top to bottom and back to front. But not necessarily symmetrical.
2. Rhythm - movement in the design that leads you through.
3. Proportion - The amount of design to space, container to plant, one color to another must be pleasing.
4. Scale - Scale is size and you do not want too much contrast in size.
5. Contrast - For variety, change of pace which stimulates interest. But too much contrast is confusing.
6. Dominance - Repetition and larger size, such as one color dominating.

The Principles of Design must be applied to the Elements of Design:

1. Space - The difference between a bucket of plants and a design is spacing.
2. Line - Lines are the skeleton, the path that leads the eye through the design.
3. Form - form is 3 dimensional. Combining different forms such as round flowers and narrow leaves,

creates depth.

4. Size - visual dimensions.
5. Light - Can create shadows and dramatic effects, affecting depth.
6. Color - Commands the most attention. Strong colors (red, orange, yellow) are warm and stimulating. Weak colors (green blue, violet) are cool and restful.
7. Texture - Textural variety promotes visual interest. This is the surface finish of materials and makes you want to touch them.
8. Pattern - Lines, shapes and form.

So design as if it were for a space in your home using the design principles and elements of design with bromeliads dominating. You will learn by doing and seeing. If you worry about all these principles too much, creativity will suffer. Better to do your preliminary arrangement, then apply the elements of design after and make adjustments with a critical eye.

**Judging:**

Adherence to Principles of Design	40 pts.
Compatibility of Color and Materials	15 pts.
Originality	15 pts.
Interpretation of Theme	10 pts.
Emphasis on Bromeliads	10 pts.
Distinction	10 pts.

Source: BSI Handbook for Judges

## Past Winners in the Artistic Arrangement Category



1. Tennis Racket to Pineapple 2. Dancing Tiger 3. Tickling Tillandsia. All entries by Josefa Leon.

## In Case You Missed It

By Leonard Goldstein

On January 18, a long drought was broken when Craig Morell presented his first program at a monthly BSSF meeting in nearly eight years! Since February 2014, the U.S. population has grown by 14,000,000 people. We're not saying that Craig was responsible for *any* of them, only that a lot has happened over those years. The longtime horticulturist at Pinecrest Gardens is now director of The Kampong. In fact, in January he celebrated his sixth anniversary at Dr. Fairchild's bayfront home.

Happily, the passage of time has not dulled Craig's ability to present an informative and entertaining program. His topic was "Selection and Placement of Bromeliads in the Landscape." He outlined his program on a dry-erase board, and was quick to point out that some of the variables in the landscaping mix are well understood in making acquisition and placement decisions: Sun or shade, wet or dry, irrigated or unirrigated. Others are more subtle: Wind or calm air, vertical or horizontal mounting of epiphytes. Of utmost importance is where to look for information to aid choices. Craig urged the audience to ask locals or to read information generated locally, because growers outside southern Florida experience growing conditions that may not be germane to our needs.

On the subject of light exposure, Craig offered a helpful rule of thumb: If a potential site is too shady for reading, it is too shady to grow a bromeliad. He also noted the continuing reliability of the old saw, "Hard Leaves, hard light; soft leaves, soft light." Nevertheless, he added, there are exceptions: *Aechmea chantinii* can be grown well in strong light.

Temperature is another key element in choosing which bromeliads to add to the landscape. We know that a lot of species grow well at 90° and start to shut down at 55°, but there are many bromeliads that grow best in a smaller temperature range. For example, at 2,000 ft. elevation in Hawaii, the temperature range is 62-78°, and something similar is found in certain high-elevation sites in Costa Rica. That's why Chester Skotak can grow some plants we cannot and why Vrieseas suffer here. We have to choose species judiciously. Of course, there's always the temptation to test what we can grow in our climate. Craig's magic number for experimentation is 6. If a half-dozen attempts to grow the same species/cultivar fail, he ends the trial.

With climate change, growers here are being forced to recalibrate which bromeliads they install in the landscape. Both rainfall and temperature in southern Florida have increased in the past 20 years, and not everything that was grown here

## In Case You Missed It

traditionally has been able to tolerate the transition.

Water quality is another variable. Craig doesn't see much difference in the effect on bromeliads of well water vs. municipal water, but he solicited other opinions. Alex Bello reported that Vrieseas and some Quesnelias are hurt by municipal water. Craig asserted that fluorine and chlorine hurt some foliage plants, but maybe not bromeliads. The Kampong is now on municipal water, and bills can approach \$30,000 a month! He feels that if very strong watering restrictions are imposed in the county someday, we will probably still be able to hand-water a couple of times a week.

Whether to mount epiphytic bromeliads horizontally or vertically is a little trickier than many growers realize. Craig suggested that some plants perform optimally when placed in a position somewhere between those two dimensions. And, of course, some bromeliads simply don't like to be mounted . . . period.

Human contact is another important consideration along the path toward making the right landscaping decisions. Encounters with specimens of Dyckia, Hechtia, and Bromelia come to mind. While they're perfect xerophytic plants and they attract butterflies, their ominous spines should be taken into consideration in making acquisitions, because they're hard to weed.

Craig reminded attendees that hummingbirds are attracted to more than plants with tubular red or orange flowers. They like Pitcairnias, but many species in that genus are hard to get. Nectar is the key, and that trait will also attract other birds. Pitcairnias like moisture and will grow fast. In general, bromeliads that flower above 2-3 ft. can attract hummingbirds.

Rough bark vs. smooth bark is one of the considerations when mounting bromeliads. Of course, rough bark is the easy choice, but some species can grow on a Royal Palm trunk.

A little trickier variable is radiational cooling, a factor not always taken into consideration. A clear night with no cover/canopy overhead can lead to the death of a bromeliads that can ordinarily take 55°. Under those conditions, the plant cools more quickly than it can handle. Our change in climate means that now a sharp temperature drop can follow an 85° day. That's not conducive to hardening off a plant for winter. Growers should cover temperature-sensitive plants to protect them, but avoid using plastic. Attic insulation works for bromeliads mounted on trees. If the host tree is one that loses leaves in the winter, the mounted bromeliads may be

## In Case You Missed It

subjected to strong radiational cooling.

On the subject of potted vs. inground planting, Craig urged listeners not to expect to keep a plant containerized for five years.

Bromeliads can be exposed to various hazards. One of the serious ones is raccoons. A good deterrent is sulfur, because it irritates their sense of smell. Diatomaceous earth might also repel raccoons; it consists of ground glasslike material. It works on slugs and snails, but is bad for pets. If iguanas are the hazard, then ballistic means of control might be necessary.

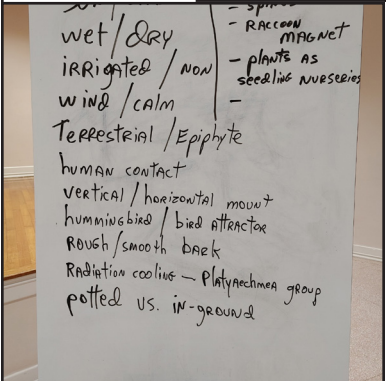
Another hazard, often overlooked, is seedling germination in the bromeliad. If ignored, it can ultimately choke the plant. And, of course, bromeliads should not be planted under coconuts.

Craig closed his program with some comments on fertilizing. Fertilizer and excess water can turn variegated bromeliads green. An application using very high phosphorus – 52%, for example – can help restore the variegation. He suggested backing off nitrogen in the fall and using phosphorus instead. Crystal Green 9-45-12 fosters re-variegation of bromeliads. The potassium content of a fertilizer doesn't seem to make much difference.





From Last Month's Meeting



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Pinecrest Gardens - Pan Am Orchid Society Show and Sale - March 15, 7 pm

BSSF Annual Show - New Dates Coming

BSI World Conference  
June 8-11, 2022  
Hyatt Regency, Sarasota

Mounts Botanical Garden:  
January 8-May 1  
Sean Kenney's Nature Pop  
Lego Exhibit

Feb. 19-20

Mounts Winter Plant Sale w/30-40 vendors ; nursery and garden thrift shop also open

April 23-24

Plant a Palooza Sale w/60-80 vendors; nursery and garden thrift shop also open

Southwest Bromeliad Guild Show and Sale

May 13, 14, 15, 2022

DoubleTree Hilton

Kenner, Louisiana (New Orleans)



## REVISED BY-LAWS

The Board has revised the by-laws and, per the by-laws, the new by-laws must be published 30 days prior to a vote by the membership.

There are 2 changes:

Article III, Section 2: The Editor is no longer a member of the Board. The editor was made a member of the Board several years ago and, after careful consideration, it was deemed too much a conflict of interest for the Editor to be a voting member of the Board.

Article III, Section 9: The Board is now empowered to authorize expenditures of not more than \$500.00. The amount was previously \$250.00 and was increased due to cost of living and inflationary increases.

BYLAWS OF BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA, INC. (BSSF, INC.)

### ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this corporation shall be BSSF, INC., hereinafter referred to as the Society.

### ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

The primary objectives of this Society shall be:

1. To serve the interests of its members by a consistent endeavor to increase their knowledge of all aspects of the Bromeliaceae family.
2. To promote wider public appreciation of bromeliads by participating in, or sponsoring, public displays or other means of promotion and public education.
3. To sponsor, to engage in, and to encourage

research that will broaden knowledge in the field of bromeliads including identification, culture, and uses.

### ARTICLE III. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

SECTION 1. The business of the Society shall be conducted by a Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, subject to the directives and restrictions contained in these bylaws. The Board shall be composed of the officers and four directors elected by the active members of the Society ~~The immediate Past President shall be a voting member of the Board.~~

SECTION 2. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Immediate Past President. ~~Editor. Except for the Treasurer and Editor,~~ They shall be elected for one year terms and shall serve until their successors take office. The positions of Treasurer and Secretary ~~Editor~~ can be renewed on a yearly basis upon approval of the Board. The President and the Vice President ~~and Secretary~~ shall not serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

SECTION 3. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and Board and shall be a member ex officio of all committees except the nominating committee. With the concurrence of the Board, the President shall also appoint such committees as are deemed necessary except for the nominating committee, the composition of which is designated in ARTICLE VII, SECTION 1.

SECTION 4. The Vice President shall perform all the duties of the President in the absence of the President and shall be responsible for programs.

SECTION 5. The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Society and the Board and shall undertake such correspondence as the President or Board shall authorize. The Secretary shall serve as clerk at all elections.

SECTION 6. The Treasurer shall be custodian of all financial records and monies of the Society. The Treasurer shall disburse funds as directed by the Board and shall receive all dues.

SECTION 7. The Directors shall be elected for terms of two years and may not serve more

than two consecutive terms.

SECTION 8. The Board is empowered to fill all vacancies in its composition between annual elections.

SECTION 9. The Board is empowered to authorize expenditures of not more than \$500.00. ~~250~~: Expenditures over this amount must be authorized by a majority vote of members present at any regular or special meeting of the membership. The \$500.00 ~~250~~ limitation does not apply to expenditures which will be reimbursed or to reasonable amounts necessary to provide programs.

SECTION 10. Should any person hold more than one of the titles listed in ARTICLE III, SECTION 2, that person will be entitled to only one vote.

#### ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of the Society shall be of three kinds: active, honorary and life.

SECTION 2. The active members of this Society shall be persons whose interest in bromeliads is such that they demonstrate their willingness to support the Society by their attendance and participation in its activities.

SECTION 3. Active membership shall be by application and payment of the appropriate dues.

SECTION 4. Honorary membership may be conferred upon any such person for outstanding achievement or service in the field of bromeliads or to further the objectives of the Society. The names of such persons must be submitted in writing to the Board. If the Board approves, the qualifications of the nominee shall be presented to the Society at a regular meeting. Approval of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary for such honorary membership to become effective. Honorary members shall be exempt from payment of dues and may neither vote nor hold office. Upon payment of dues, however, an honorary member shall become an active member and be entitled to all the privileges of such membership. Honorary membership shall be for a period of two years and may be continued for like periods by a majority of the Board.

SECTION 5. Life membership may be conferred upon any person for outstanding achievement or service in the field of bromeliads and this Society. Outstanding achievement or service, as used in the prior sentence, means either achievement in the world of bromeliads, or service in the world of bromeliads or service to the Bromeliad Society of South Florida. The name of the candidate must be submitted in writing to the Board. If the Board approves, the nomination shall be presented to the Society at a regular meeting. Approval of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary for such life membership to become effective. Life members shall be exempt from payment of dues and may vote and hold office. Life members shall have all the privileges of active members. No more than 1 life member may be approved by the Board in any one year. A spouse or partner may be included with his/her spouse/partner and that couple would be deemed a single life member for purposes of the limitations outline in the prior sentence.

#### ARTICLE V. DUES

The annual dues for all active members shall be determined by the Board. Dual membership is offered to two members residing at the same address. Dual members are entitled to all privileges of membership in the Society but receive only one bulletin. Dues are payable on or before March 1st of each year.

#### ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

SECTION 1. Regular meetings of the Society shall be held on the third Tuesday of each month – or any other date determined appropriate by the membership – at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Miami, Florida, or at any other place determined appropriate by the membership – upon vote and approval – after one month's notice in substantial conformity with the procedures outlined in ARTICLE VIII. Such meeting times and locations may be changed by a majority vote of the membership present at the previous meeting or by the Board in case of emergency. In such cases the members will be notified as soon as possible.

SECTION 2. Special meetings may be called at

the discretion of the President, the Board, or by vote of the members at a regular meeting.

SECTION 3. The regular meeting in November shall be designated as the Annual Meeting of members at which the officers and directors for the coming year will be elected. They shall take office at the January meeting and shall serve through December 31st.

SECTION 4. Ten members shall constitute a quorum for regular and special meetings. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum at the Board meetings.

SECTION 5. All general meetings except the December members/guests only holiday meetings are open to the public.

SECTION 6. All Board meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of every month, unless a vote is made by the majority of the Board to have the meeting at another date. Any vote to change the date of the Board's meeting may be handled by email transmittal. Such email must be delivered to all Board members with 48 or more hours notice.

#### ARTICLE VII. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 1. The nominating committee shall consist of three members of the Society. The Chairman shall be elected from the Board at the August Board meeting and the other members shall be elected by the Society at its regular meeting in September. The nominating committee shall report at the October meeting at which time nominations may be made from the floor providing the consent of the nominee has been obtained. Nominations from the floor may also be made at the November meeting with the same stipulation regarding consent of the nominee.

SECTION 2. A majority vote of the members present at the Annual Meeting shall constitute a valid election. When more than one nominee is presented for an office, the voting shall be by secret ballot and tallied by the Election Clerk.

SECTION 3. No member shall serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms. Members who have held office for more than one-half the normal term shall be deemed to have held that office for a full term.

SECTION 4. Notwithstanding the provision of this ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3, the Treasurer's or Secretary's position may be renewed on a yearly basis upon approval by the Board.

#### ARTICLE VIII. AMENDMENTS

Amendments or additions to these bylaws may be voted on at any meeting of the Society provided such amendment or addition has been published on the newsletter thirty (30) days prior to voting on changes. A quorum must be present and a two-thirds majority of the members present shall be required to amend or add to the bylaws.

#### ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern all procedures not covered in the bylaws.

#### ARTICLE X. THE SOCIETY'S STATUS AS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

In all cases the Society will operate in compliance with Federal and State laws pertaining to regulation of not for profit organizations, i.e. Federal 501(c)3 and State 508(e) and any other regulation which pertain.

#### ARTICLE XI. DISPOSITION OF ASSETS UPON DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of the Society, all the net assets shall be disbursed to any such non-profit organizations that are devoted to the furtherance of those purposes most closely related to the objective of this Society as would qualify under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Bylaws Revision, ~~October, 2018~~, February, 2022

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

BSSF. INC.

2022 MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW MEMBERS\_\_\_ AND RENEWAL\_\_\_

Please print names: (Couples include both names)

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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, 2022 to February 28, 2023.

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.

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Dues must be received by March 1, 2022 in order for you to be included in the BSSF 2022 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](mailto:pgonza7782@aol.com)

You can pay up to 5 years at the rates above.