



February 2023

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



Facebook- Public
Bromeliad Society of South Florida

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/2022/11-2022.pdf>

DIRECTORS

Maureen Adelman, Past President
Tina Severson, President
Patty Gonzalez, VP
Samantha Jones, Treasurer
Leonard Goldstein, Secretary
Maria Almodovar, Director
Karen Bradley, Director
Olivia Martinez, Director
Denise Karman, Director

COMMITTEES

Editor: Maureen Adelman

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: Heidi Davenport
Community Service: Carl Bauer
Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo

February 21, 2023 MEETING 7:30 PM

Corbin A

SPEAKER: Dennis Cathcart
A Naturalist Visits Cuba

Food Donations Needed- Win the Prize
No Member Plant Sales; limit 3 silent auction plants

ABOUT THE SPEAKER

Dennis and Linda Cathcart are the owners of Tropiflora Nursery in Sarasota, Florida. They started Tropiflora in the early 1970s. Dennis and Linda have visited over 25 countries on more than 100 trips and expeditions. Together they made travel, adventure, plant exploring, speaking and writing a way of life. For many years Dennis documented his travel adventures with a monthly newsletter called The Cargo report. From these journals we followed the adventures of Dennis and other collectors like Wally Berg, John Anderson, Dr. Hiro Takizawa and many others who travelled with Dennis to Central and South America. A tour of Tropiflora Nursery was one of the highlights of the recent Bromeliad World Conference.

President's Message

Wishing you all a Happy Valentine's Day. We had a great turnout for our field trip! I am thankful that Heidi Davenport planned this event for us. We had an amazing day at Tropical Tradewinds, Bello Tropicals and OFE and we all left with more bromeliads. We really appreciate Carl Bauer who surprised us all at lunchtime by picking up the tab. It's nice to see how our members are so generous. This is what gives our club heart. All that attended really enjoyed the day together. For those of you who missed out we are planning another event. Please see more info on this in the Advisory. Continue to invite your friends and family.

Membership fees are due now. We need these fees to cover costs in running our club. The dues are minimal considering what you get in food and speakers/programs. Please remember to assist in bringing food for our meetings since we will be cutting back to keep costs down for our scheduled show in April. We need everyone's assistance for the next few months.

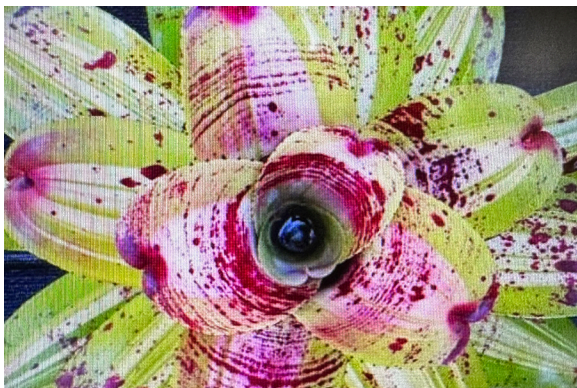
Tina Severson

SEE PAGE 19 FOR INFO ON OUR NEXT FIELD TRIP 3/25

BOOK OF THE MONTH SALE

BSSF is in the process of liquidating its library. Each month we will be selling one of our great reference books which are beautifully illustrated. One of these tomes could be the start of your bromeliad reference library.

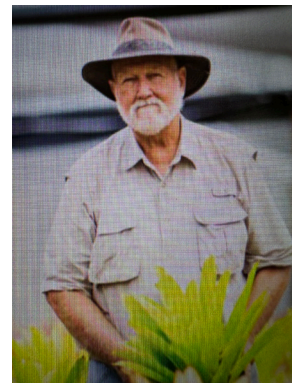
The February selection is "Bromeliads for Modern Living" by Dr. Louis Wilson. We have two autographed copies at \$5.00 each. Dr. Wilson hails from Punta Gorda, Florida and even has a bromeliad named after him, *Neoregelia* 'LouWilson'.



THE SHOW IS COMING

Though we have not yet received a contract from Fairchild, the show dates are confirmed, April 27-30, 2023. That means you have two months to prepare your plants. We have several items concerning the show in this issue: a list of committee chairs and volunteers needed, two cheat sheets for artistic arrangements and decorative containers courtesy of judge in training Ofelia Sorzano, and a reprise article on the elements of artistic arrangements.

Dennis Cathcart, February Speaker



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Time again for our annual membership drive.

Please take a moment to renew your membership. The \$25.00 fee is well worth it for the Holiday Party alone. The renewal form is at the back of the Advisory. Dues remain \$25.00 per person and \$35.00 per couple.

You can also renew your membership at the meeting or by mail. We will have forms ready for you and can accept your payment in 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. They also help pay for the \$1000 scholarship which we are offering to a graduating senior of the Fairchild Botany Magnet High School Program.

The deadline for renewal is March 1, 2023 in order for you to be included in the FCBS roster and our own roster.

If you joined our society in October or later in 2022, your dues are paid through 2023.

____ JANUARY FIELD TRIP IS A ROUSING SUCCESS

Our January field trip to Homestead nurseries was great fun. There were about 20 of us so it was a wonderful turnout. First we met at Tradewinds Tropicals. While munching on donuts and bagels we picked out bromeliads to our heart's content. Stephanie LaRusso gave us a short program outlining the difference between bromeliads grown in more sun vs less sun and bromeliads heavily fertilized vs. less/no fertilizer. Then it was on to White Lion Cafe for a delicious outdoor lunch. Thank you to Carl Bauer for treating us! Then we ventured over to Bello Tropicals for a first look at Alex's nursery, filled with Chester Skotak hybrids. There was also a sale at OFE where we could purchase orchids, and aroids. Everyone left happy and ready for a nap!



ASK DR. BROM

Dear Dr. Brom, Part Two:

I am trying my best to learn the names of the bromeliads but the Tillandsias especially stump me. They all look alike! Any help would be appreciated.

This is the second of three installments on South Florida tillandsias. This month we will discuss the medium size xerophyte tillandsias. Xerophyte tillandsias have grey, bluish or white leaves coated with trichomes. They like sun and can take full sun but need to be checked in the summer months. Generally the thicker the leaf the more sun it can take. They like hanging or attaching themselves to tree trunks. These plants don't have cups and depend on the rain. These are the tillandsias that thrive in our area. We can divide the plants into small, medium and large groups. And incidentally, all tillandsias are spineless.

Medium Tillandsias:

Tillandsia streptophylla - has a bulblike shape and mature leaves curl into ringlets. Nickname is Curlylocks or Shirley Temple. Leaves are silver-gray and the flowers last for several months.

Tillandsia concolor - small, stiff gray, thin leaves. Has a star shaped rosette, 8-10" flower and many cultivars, including red form. Leaves are yellow to red in bloom. Has bright cherry floral bract and the flower is multibranching.



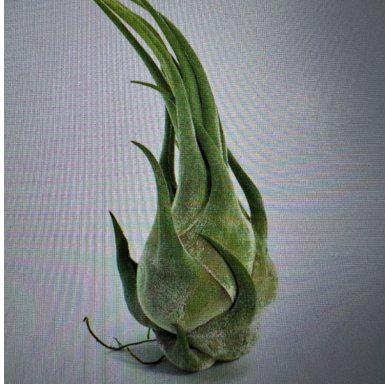
Till. streptophylla
left



Till. concolor
right

Tillandsia seleriana -Sculptural and fuzzy. Known as the rhino horn plant. Has a bulblike shape with silver green, thick, curved leaves with lots of trichomes.

Tillandsia capitata - peach form or red form are most common. Grows to 10" and hybridizes easily. Is drought tolerant. Most recognizable feature is its large, headlike rosette.



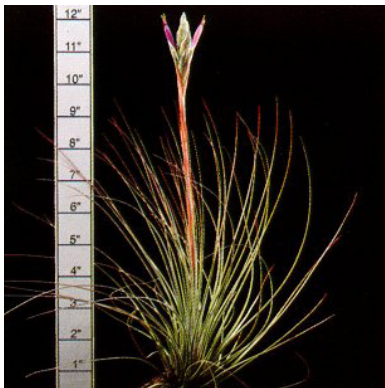
Till. seleriana
left



Till. capitata
right

Tillandsia juncea - has slender, grass like leaves, greenish silver, and grows where a cactus would be happy. Easily hybridized and can grow in multiple habitats. Red near blooming period, inflorescence can be up to 19" tall. Has many names, including *juncifolia*. Is drought tolerant and is used for medicinal and industrial purposes.

Tillandsia balbisiana - native to Florida, threatened, likes it dry and sunny. Also known as the northern needleleaf and the coke bottle airplant. Has long, thin leaves, gray green, inflorescence up to 7", can grow to 24" but usually smaller. Has a bulbous base and the weevil is a threat.



Till. juncea
left



Till. balbisiana
right

Tillandsia flexuosa - a threatened native. Long, twisted leaves, bulbous base, 16" leaves are re-curved. Flowers up to 32". Also called the twisted airplant. Dark banding on leaves. Drought tolerant. Weevil is a threat.

Tillandsia setacea - native know as the southern needleleaf. Leaves resemble pine needles, 4-12" leaves. Grows in tuft-like clumps. Flowers are 3-6"



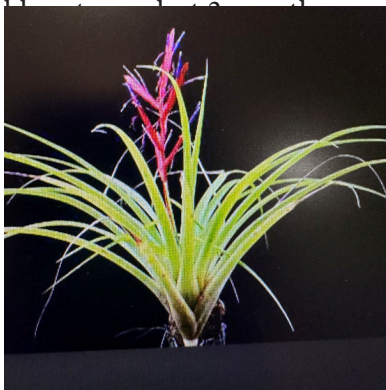
Till. flexuosa
left



Till. setacea
right

Tillandsia variabilis - Threatened, also called the leatherleaf airplant. medium to large. Usually single but sometimes clumps. Reddish bract when flowering with violet petals. grows 12-20"

Tillandsia stricta - Gray-green or silver gray leaves. 3-6" leaves. Grows in a variety of conditions and looks different according to habitat. Likes to clump. Leaves 3-6" and silvery. Flowers are blue, purple and yellow and only last a day but are beautiful. Bracts can last 3 months.



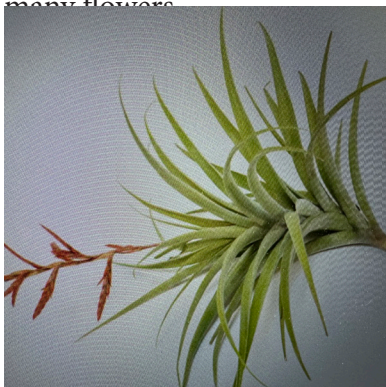
Till. variabilis
left



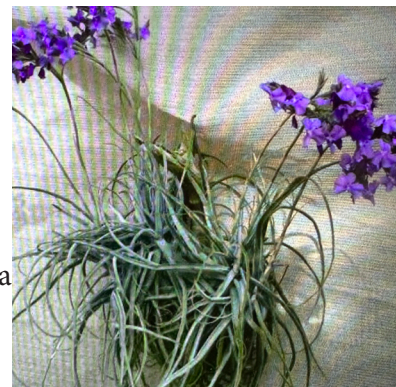
Till. stricta
right

Tillandsia latifolia - Stiff green leaves grow to 12+ inches, with bloom to 20". Large bloom with red flowers. Several varieties.

Tillandsia streptocarpa - beautiful bluish violet flowers are very fragrant. Forms small clumps. Silvery leaves form thick rosettes. Curling, tangled leaves grow 8-12". Each inflorescence bears many flowers.



Till. latifolia
left



Till. streptocarpa
right

Tillandsia 'Curly Slim' - this is a hybrid, not a species, but is very popular: *T. intermedia* x *T. streptophylla*. Can be grown vertically or upside down. Thick curling leaves. Its long pink flower spike produces pups. Has a bulbous shape and is tall, slim and curly. Do not overwater to maintain curls



Till. 'Curly Slim'

That is all for this month. We will continue next month with the large tillandsias. Here are some resources for identifying your tillandsias:

Wikipedia Index has a list of species. Tap on the name for a photo
FCBS Photo Index - Just type in FCBS Photo index and you are there
BSI Species and Cultivar registries

Or you could buy a book. Every month starting in January we will be selling a bromeliad book at our meetings.

The following page is a cheat sheet for identifying bromeliads, courtesy of Bromeliad Specialties nursery. Print it out and hang it on your bulletin board for quick reference

Sources:

www.gardenista
www.decoist.com
Birdrocktropicals.com
Bromeliad Society of Queensland, 'Starting with Bromeliads'
Jack Kramer, 'Bromeliads for Home and Garden'
Victoria Padilla, 'Bromeliads'
Ronald Parkhurst, 'The Book of Bromeliads'
FCBS Photo Index
Jose Manzanares, 'Bromeliaceae of Ecuador'
University of Florida
Wikipedia



Ttl. andreaea

Ttl. hybrid 51

Ttl. streptophylla hybrid 13

Ttl. junceaefolia

Ttl. funkiana Hybrid

Ttl. funkiana

Ttl. brachycaulos hybrid

Ttl. capitata Peach

Ttl. brachycaulos

Ttl. brachycaulos Burgundy

Vt. cespitosa

Ttl. Victoriana

Ttl. streptophylla hybrid

Ttl hybrid 37

Ttl. araucae

Ttl. brachycaulos Select

Ttl. bulbosa

Ttl. stricta

Neo Fireball

Ttl. hybrid # 85

Ttl. io-ionantha

Ttl. ionantha fuego

Ttl. ionantha mexicana

Ttl. ionantha n

Ttl. stricta hard

Ttl. concolor

Ttl. tenuifolia blue

Ttl. tenuifolia "emerald forest"

Ttl. verrucosa

51K09666

Ttl. novae

Ttl. arifolia

Ttl. rolandi gresslinii

Ttl. capitata red

Ttl. hybrid 1

THE EXTRAVAGANZA IS COMING!



Featuring


Chester Skotak
Costa Rica


Eloise Beach
Apopka, FL


David Shiigi
Hawaii

**FCBS
& Bromeliad Society
of the Palm Beaches**
presents
Bromeliad Extravaganza
July 28-29, 2023

Don't Delay, Register Today!

Hotel Registration: West Palm Beach Marriott
1001 Okeechobee Blvd. • West Palm Beach, FL 33401
www.marriott.com

Conference Registration: www.fcbsextravaganza.org

For more information: 561-386-7812 • tramiccio@aol.com

Undoubtedly, many of you have received this save the date card from FCBS. The weekend promises to be a fun one. There is a Friday night BBQ followed by a registrant plant sale from 7:30 to 9:30pm. On Saturday there are afternoon lectures including what is billed as Chester Skotak's final lecture. The Saturday night banquet includes a live auction and a silent auction. On Sunday there is an optional \$25 Garden Tour and Brunch. Registration is \$150 by April 30, \$175 after May 1. Rooms at the Marriott are \$139 until June 30. Parking is \$8/day. You can register online. This Extravaganza is also close to home. Mark your calendars and plan ahead.

THE SHOW - WHAT WE HAVE AND WHAT WE NEED FROM OUR MEMBERS

2023 Show Chairman Alex Bello spoke to the members at our last meeting about his plans and expectations for our Spring Show. Our number one need is volunteers. This is our chance to give back to the community by sharing our knowledge and love of bromeliads. Committee chairs are listed below so that you may contact them to volunteer. Your choices are as varied as your interests.

We will also be calling all our members seeking donations for crystal, our traditional prizes at the show. We are the only society to give such prestigious prizes, which are etched with our beautiful logo. When you get the call, please answer it and be as generous as you can.

Judges and Awards:	Barbara Partagas
Clerks:	Patty Gonzalez
Vendors:	Peter Kouchalakos
Student Art and Co-Chair:	Samantha Jones
Member Sales:	Tina Severson
Classification:	Alan Herndon
Data Entry:	Ofelia Sorzano
Awards and Plant Placement:	Skye Palmer
Hospitality & Information:	Karen Bradley
Food:	Sandy Roth
Advertising & Social Media:	Samantha Jones
Photography:	Open
Security:	Open

Please contact the committee chair or Alex Bello (bellotropicals@yahoo.com) to volunteer.



ARTISTIC ARRANGEMENT CHEAT SHEET

ADHERENCE TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DESIGN (40 POINTS)

BALANCE AND RHYTHM

- ✓ The arrangement is three-dimensional. It appears flat.
- ✓ The design has physical balance. It has a vertical axis.
- ✓ The vertical axis combined with the proper use of color and textures creates an apparent visual balance.
- ✓ The combined textures of the bromeliad(s) and other materials are properly associated to provide rhythm.
- ✓ The pattern within the body of the design repeats that of the outline and contributes to rhythm.
- ✓ The arrangement has rhythmic flow.

PROPORTION AND SCALE

- ✓ The amount of design to space, of container to plant, of one plant to another, of one color to another are in proportion.
- ✓ The container/base is in scale with the plant material and accessories.
- ✓ There is gradation of size of the plant material used.

CONTRAST AND DOMINANCE

- ✓ The design has textural variety
- ✓ The arrangement has one color, one plant material, or one form that predominates.
- ✓ The similarities are relieved by a smaller quantity of differences (color, texture, form, lines, patterns, etc.)

COMPATIBILITY OF COLOR AND MATERIALS (15 POINTS)

- ✓ There is color harmony/contrast/drama.
- ✓ There is harmony between the related colors.
- ✓ The color scheme is complimentary/dramatic.
- ✓ There is harmonious and contrasting use of patterns, textures, and forms.

ORIGINALITY (15 POINTS)

- ✓ There is a freshness of concept/a creative flair.
- ✓ The arrangement captures the attention, holds interest, conveys a message, and evokes a favorable response.
- ✓ The design has 'color drama', possesses 'bold simplicity'.
- ✓ Design principles are observed, yet the entry demonstrates sophisticated, innovative use and/or placement of common materials.

DISTINCTION: MARKED SUPERIORITY IN ALL RESPECTS; INCLUDES CONDITION OF PLANT MATERIAL (10 POINTS)

- ✓ There is visual impact.
- ✓ The container/base/mat is clean and in good condition and of appropriate size.
- ✓ All plant material is clean/not damaged/fresh.
- ✓ All dried material is clean/in good condition.
- ✓ There is a lack of schedule conformance.
- ✓ Craftsmanship is excellent, none of the mechanics are visible.

INTERPRETATION OF THEME (10 POINTS)

- ✓ Arrangement fails to interpret the theme. Fails to meet schedule requirements for materials.

EMPHASIS ON BROMELIADS (10 POINTS)

- ✓ Bromeliads are emphasized by quantity/placement/color/bizarre markings.

DECORATIVE CONTAINER CHEAT SHEET

HARMONY, COMPATIBILITY AND ATTRACTIVENESS OF PLANT AND CONTAINER IS EVIDENT (30 POINTS)

- In texture, the degree of formality and/or shape.
- There is a pleasing proportion between the plant and its container.
- The color of the plant and container, contrast/harmonize
- The container color picks up the color least found in the plant.

plant material
s/b 2/3

ORIGINALITY AND UNIQUENESS (10 POINTS)

- The entry captures the attention, holds one's interest, conveys a message, evokes a favorable response.
- The container is unique/not familiar to the viewer.
- This container and plant combination is unusual.

CULTURAL PERFECTION (20 POINTS)

- The container is clean/in good condition.
- The mix is the right depth/clean/the appropriate size/color/texture.
- Leaves damaged slightly, badly.
- Leaves trimmed expertly, poorly, drastically
- Leaf removal is complete, excessive.
- Gaps between leaves.
- Leaves have wide and narrow areas.
- Leaves are elongated, folded and/or channeled.
- Plant and/or inflorescence are well-groomed.
- The scurf is marred.

CONFORMATION (20 POINTS)

- The plant is symmetrical
- The typical shape of this species is present
- The stem is straight
- The cup has not been pulled off-center.
- The natural contour has been destroyed by gaps between the leaves
- Excessive or incomplete grooming.
- The leaves are the appropriate shape, width, length and number for this species.
- The inflorescence is typical in size and shape for this species.

COLOR AND MARKING (INCLUDING INFLORESCENCE, IF APPLICABLE) (20 POINTS)

- Color/markings are typical for this species (variety).
- The plant color/markings are clear/vibrant/evenly distributed.
- The color is faded/bleached/lighter on one side.
- There are color breaks. The scurf is marred in ____ areas.
- Inflorescence: the flowers are bright, not faded.
- The floral and scape bracts are clear, not muddy.

plant color
s/b 2/3

NOTE: We do not judge for maturity. The plant can be a pup.

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.

ABOUT LAST MONTH

Our January speaker, Lee Magnuson and his cohort, Jonathan, came down from Broward to discuss his passion, hybridizing. Lee is a simple man who likes the natural world. He doesn't bother with cell phones or watches and he has a small yard. Yet he manages to grow enough hybrids to sell at shows. His booth at the BSI World Conference sold out.

His advice when hybridizing is to start with two good plants; two plants in bloom would be optimal. But he doesn't like to push his plants to bloom so he finds that frozen pollen works well. He keeps the anthers, puts the pollen in tin foil, tags and dates it, and finds that it lasts up to three years.

Though he started hybridizing with orlandianas, he finds billbergias are the easiest to hybridize as the stigma rises far above the rest of the flower. He uses tweezers to remove the stigma and dusts the pollen from the stigma on the other flowering plant. This results in a fertilized seed. You must wait at least 8 weeks to remove the fertilized seeds from the plant. The fertilized seeds will be fat and the unfertilized seeds will be small and undeveloped.

He then puts the fertilized seeds in water and pours them onto a napkin. Shortly thereafter they green up. You can put them in an envelope until you are ready to sow them.

He puts the seeds in Pro-Mix, a Canadian product consisting of peat moss and perlite. He gets the mixture damp and places the seeds on top of the soil and covers. Droplets should form on the top of the covered container, mimicing the rain forest. He uses plastic containers like take out salad boxes or cookie containers and fills with the pro-mix. After about 2 weeks green leaves should have formed.

When the plantlets are 1-2" tall put three seedlings each in a small pot. They will like to be watered every day. Lee says peat pods do not work as well as they dry out. From this point to maturity can take 2 years. You must be patient. Do not fertilize so that you can see the true colors of the plant. Lee uses tap water for his plants. He finds that well water produces inferior plants. He does not use fungicides and has 99% success with his plants.

Some tips from Magnuson:

- try hybridizing 2 different genera which will result in a bigeneric which can be interesting.
- hybridizing is as easy as touching the anther to the stigma and it works.
- when an albomarginated mother is hybridized, all the pups will be albinos and will not survive when removed from the mother.
- keep pollinators away when hybridizing to produce a true hybrid.
- when tagging a hybrid, the seed parent goes on top and the pollen plant on the bottom.
- Keep accurate records so that you can register the new plant if it turns out to be special.
- You cannot register a hybrid until it flowers.
- You must grow the hybrids for several generations to ensure they 're stable (reproducing true to the hybrid without reverting back to either parent).
- Do not use DampOff, a commercial potting mix for seedlings.
- You can stake your seedlings to grow straight using chopsticks, which have a longer life than bamboo stakes.
- With neoregelias, the flower does not present well as the stigma is way down in the plant. He has to tear the plant apart to reach the stigma.

Lee has hybridized quesnellias and orlandianas (an intergeneric), has had great luck hybridizing billbergias, and has even hybridized Chester Skotak plants which are hybrids themselves. He finds Dyckias slower to hybridize. He is now working on Neos.

Lee has a website, Brilliant Bromeliads, which you can visit to buy more plants. He brought along plenty of his hybrids, some of which were striking. Everyone who wanted one was able to purchase one of his hybrids. His parting words, "If I can do it you can do it." BSSF was so impressed we are looking into a hybridizing field trip. We are unable to do an actual hybridizing at our meetings as the whole process is dependent on when the plant(s) flower.





SPRING SHOW AND SALE IS SCHEDULED

Our spring show and sale has been scheduled and approved by Fairchild. This will be a judged show, our first since 2019. If you remember our show scheduled for March 2020 was cancelled at the last minute due to Covid. It is not too early to look over your plants and give a few some special attention for the show. The dates are April 27-30, 2023.

BEWARE OF EMAILS

If you receive emails purportedly from the BSSF president or another officer asking you to purchase gift cards for some event or charity we support, please ignore. We, along with several other plant societies, have a longstanding problem with a cybercrook hijacking officer emails. We will never ask you to buy gift cards or money order.

OUR NEXT FIELD TRIP IS ALREADY SCHEDULED

Our president sure does like field trips. We have already scheduled our next one for Saturday, March 25, 2 pm, at the home of Mike Michalski and Patty Gonzalez, 10565 SW 109 St. We were very intrigued by our speaker, Lee Magnuson, who spoke on hybridizing. So now we have scheduled a field trip to Mike's house to experience hybridizing for ourselves. We think that once our members actually hybridize a plant, the mystery will be gone and we will be more likely to hybridize at home. After our hybridizing, we will decamp to the home of Tina Severson for a cookout and bonfire. Tina will be making shish kebobs and we are all asked to bring side dishes. Sounds like a great afternoon and evening and we hope you will join us.

Amazon Smile is No More

Amazon has announced that it is discontinuing its Amazon Smile program. They felt their contributions were watered down by the many charities the program contributed to and they will be concentrating their philanthropic efforts elsewhere. We thank everyone who participated in the program.

SILENT AUCTION AND MEMBER PLANT SALE RULES

When we have a speaker bringing plants, we will only allow 4 plants for silent auction in order to give our speakers who travel here and pack up their plants a fair chance to sell their plants. If you would like to sell a plant at the silent auction you will need to contact Rene Izquierdo (rcizquierdo@bellsouth.net) or 305 282 9333 and he will let you know if there is an opening for your plants. You will be paid 80% of the sale price and BSSF will receive 20%.

We will likewise defer to our speakers for member plant sales when we have a speaker bringing plants. You will again be paid 80% of the sales price. To participate in member plant sales, please contact Alex Bello (bellotropicals@yahoo.com) or 239 223 6155 to schedule your sale so that we are not overrun with plants.

We appreciate your cooperation so that there will be no hard feelings if members bring plants and are turned away because we have a speaker who brought plants to sell.

SILENT AUCTION: Rene Izquierdo
(rcizquierdo@bellsouth.net)
305 282 9333

MEMBER PLANT SALES:
Alex Bello (bellotropicals @
yahoo.com)
239 223 6155

UPCOMING EVENTS

BSSF Spring Judged Show and Sale -
April 27-30, 2023 - Fairchild
FCBS Extravaganza - W. Palm Beach
July 28-29

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden:
- Fairchild sells some rare and
different plants online. Go to
website, click virtual plant sale
under event

Flamingo Gardens -
Exotic Plant Festival and Bonsai
Show - March 4 and 5

MAKE MONEY WITH YOUR PLANTS

We are in need of volunteers to supply our Raffle Table. Cut some pups from 8-10 of your plants and bring them to the meeting. If you are uncomfortable with public speaking someone else can talk about the plants, even if you don't know their names. You receive 80% of total sales. Contact Alex Bello 239-223-6155 or bellotropicals@yahoo.com

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

BSSF. INC.

2023 MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW MEMBERS____ AND RENEWAL____

Please print names: (Couples include both names)

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, 2023 to February 28, 2024.

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, 2023 in order for you to be included in the BSSF 2023 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

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