



FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

Volume 40
Issue 1
February 2020



Neoregelia Black Olive



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Cover Photograph: Neoregelia Black Olive ©Photo Carol Wolfe



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*I love Bromeliads... By Carol Wolfe, Editor*

Hi Everyone and Wishing You a Happy New Year!

My favorite expression heard over New Year's was: "**Say Goodbye to the Past and Hello to the Future!**" What a wonderful sense of optimism to greet each new morning of the New Year with a Big Hello! I hope all of you were able to spend time with family and created many lasting memories with those you love, especially all our wonderful grandchildren!

Recently Tom and I were reminiscing about bromeliad people so Tom picked up the phone and called Nancy and Tom Steinmetz in Minnesota. We were shocked to learn that Tom had passed away on October 12, 2019 just one day after his 96th birthday on October 11, 2019.

Tom enjoyed growing and showing bromeliads and building props for the BSSF Show. Nancy and Tom were life members of the Bromeliad Society South Florida. Tom was a flight engineer instructor for Pan American Airways. After retirement they moved to Minnesota to be with family.

For ten years plus during the Bromeliad Society of South Florida's Annual Show and Sale, we were guests in the Steinmetz's home. While Tom was Judging the show and Nancy was busy hosting and preparing lunch for the Judges, Tom Steinmetz and I were busy with whatever project he was working on. "Come on," he would say and into the truck and off we would go to run errands and later to join our spouses at Fairchild for lunch. He was full of energy and always on the move doing something.

At one bromeliad sale at Fairchild when the gates were opened at 9 AM, at that exact moment the rains came down. But there was no stopping the enthusiastic bromeliad shoppers and at the end of the day we had wet checks and wet cash. In order to dry them overnight, we lined the bills and checks around the walls. The Steinmetz didn't lock their doors at night so Tom said if robbers came in during the night, they would not touch the cash as they would surely think it was a sting!

After the show, it was at parties at their house where we met many of the wonderful BSSF members for the first time, Karl & Kris Greene, Peter & Clara Kouchalakos, Jose & Sarah Donayre and others. Tom & Nancy introduced us to the delicious Cuban food at "Little Havana". After the show was over, it became our tradition to go there for our last dinner together.

The Steinmetz's home was about an acre lot of tropical paradise with bromeliads surrounding the pool and the backyard. Sitting by the pool you really felt secluded from the rest of the world. We spent many wonderful hours on their lanai fellowshiping and talking bromeliads. Our wonderful memories of Tom will live on in our hearts and we will be joining him someday in that heavenly paradise that God said, "*Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him.*"

Nita and Joe Ankenbruck, who I wrote about in the last Newsletter, like Tom & Nancy, had a wonderful gift for hospitality. Nita passed away on the 11th of October, 2019, just one day before Tom. Years ago we were in Houston because Tom was judging the Houston Bromeliad Show. Afterwards, the Ankenbruck's invited us to Pearland to have dinner with their family and to the Houston Society's Auction at their home that evening. They had a lovely family with many bright, energetic young people in their twenties. They shared many humorous stories but one particular story we'll never forget.

It was Joe's custom to get up first in the morning, make coffee, read the newspaper, and take Nita a cup of hot coffee. One morning while the coffee was perking, he went out to the driveway to pick up the morning newspaper and to his horror their cat had been killed. So there was nothing Joe could do except get a garbage bag and bury the cat.

About three months later, Joe as usual, made the coffee and went out to get the newspaper and could not believe what he was seeing: the dead cat was back! Upon close examination, they were certain this was their cat. So Joe came to the conclusion that he must have buried someone else's cat..or..could it really be that cats have nine lives!

Thanks to all our wonderful, faithful contributors this month: Jay Thurrott, Dr. Terrie Bert, Tom Wolfe, Greg Kolojeske, Nick Bethmann and I know you will enjoy their articles! As always a special thanks to our excellent proofreader, Calandra Thurrott! You are a great TEAM to work with!



Judges School Number 2 Held in Ft. Myers

By Jay Thurrott

Judges School Number 1 saw students beginning their studies toward becoming accredited bromeliad show judges with an introduction to the Bromeliaceae Family and a focus on some of the terrestrial Genera. School 2 was also held in Ft. Myers and covered the Genus Tillandsia, the importance of point



Student Alison Akerman looks over Tillandsia study plants



After a lunch break, it's back to work for the students as well as instructors

©Photos by Jay Thurrott

scoring, as well as a discussion of major awards judging. Each school session (there are 6 sessions to each school series plus a certification exam) is an intensive, day-long classroom event that is conducted by a team of accredited judges. Students study the plants and learn not only how to recognize cultural defects, but how to actually score each plant in a consistent and reproducible manner. Consistency is emphasized so that regardless of where a judged show takes place, judges award the same ribbon color and ultimately recognize the same division, section and show winners.

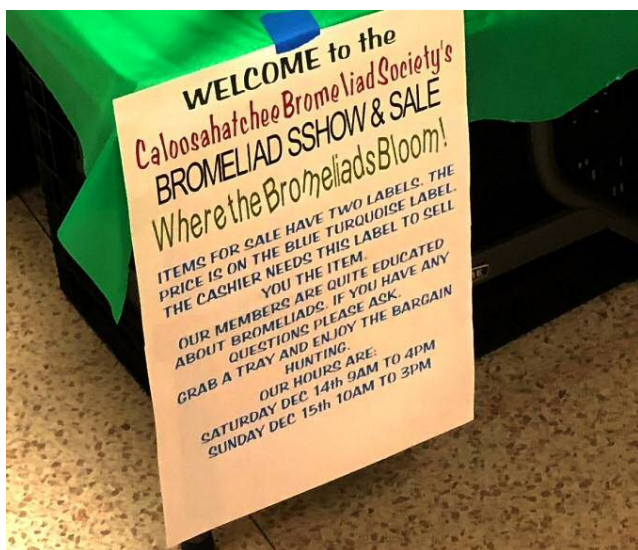


Betty Anne Prevatt, Chair of the Judges Certification Committee Explains the point scoring process



Student Robert Meyer of the Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Continued next page



December's Caloosahatchee bromeliad show in Ft. Myers



Student Judge Tom Cowell talks with Master Judge Terrie Bert

Students who successfully completed both schools 1 and 2 are now qualified to join judging panels (under the supervision of accredited judges) in actual BSI judged shows. Several of these students participated in the 2019 Caloosahatchee bromeliad show in December while others volunteered to serve as clerks in the show. The next school will be held in Sarasota in conjunction with the BSI World Conference in June.

**ANNOUNCING THE NEXT BSI JUDGES SCHOOL TO BE HELD AT THE
2020 WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2020**



**HYATT REGENCY HOTEL
SARASOTA, FLORIDA**



**Continental Breakfast for the Judges School from 8 AM to 9 AM
School is scheduled from 9AM to 5 PM
A boxed lunch from 12-1:00 PM**

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Contact: Betty Ann Prevatt, (239) 229-7781
Email: BPrevattpcc@aol.com**



DRESSING GIRLS AROUND THE WORLD

The Hometown News in New Smyrna Beach/Edgewater on December 6, 2019, published an article about DRESS GIRLS AROUND THE WORLD.

This non-profit organization provides sundresses to little girls around the world who may never had a new dress. These dresses, made by thousands of women across the nation, are delivered through mission groups to the little girls.

Two of our very own FCBS members, Calandra Thurrott and Mary McBride of the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society were featured in the article with their photo showing them sewing new sundresses for little girls at the Artists' Workshop.

The local Habitat for Humanity Restore gives the group fabric and little stuffed animals to tuck into a pocket on each dress. The ArtsEtc., women bring their own sewing machines to sew on.

The founder of the artists group sixteen years ago, Mary McBride of DeLand, was on hand at her sewing machine and said the twelve women sewing with her also bring much of their own colorful material to make the dresses.

A label is prominently sewed onto each dress. The label provides additional security to deter predators away from these little girls because it indicated that they are receiving care from someone.

Since March this local group of women have given more than 200 dresses to girls in Puerto Rico, Kenya, Haiti, Honduras, Guatemala, Bahamas and Akwesasne Mohaw Indian Reservation in New York.



***Our congratulations to
Calandra Thurrott and Mary McBride
for donating their time talent
and sewing abilities to this organization.
We are so proud of your Contributions!***

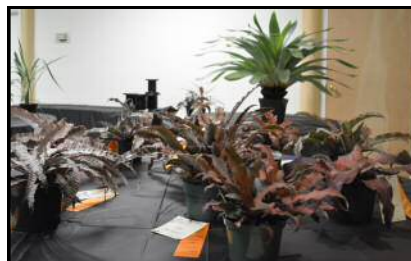


CONGRATUATIONS TO THE CALOOSAATCHEE BROMELIAD SOCIETY ON THEIR BEAUTIFUL SHOW DECEMBER 2019

Our congratulations to the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society members for a very successful show of well grown award winning bromeliads! We thank them for all their hard work and the great effort that it took to put on a first class show for members and the public. An old African proverb says "It takes a village to raise a child." With some slight changes, this could apply to a bromeliad show "It takes a lot of hard working villagers to have a great show!" There were many more great bromeliads judged and photographed and although we can't publish them all we hope you will enjoy these!



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL THE
EXHIBITORS!!!**





December 2019 Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Show



Mulford B. Foster
Best of Show Horticulture
Tillandsia concolor x roland-
gossellini Exhibitor: Tom Cowell



The Morris Henry Hobbs Award
Best of Show Artistic
Cryptanthus Eruption
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux



Sweepstakes Award
Aechmea recurvate var.
benrathii
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux



Best Individual Specimen Plant
Neoregelia Flame On
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl



Best Individual Foliage
Neo. Fancy Francis
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl



Best Individual Blooming
Cryptanthus Witchdoctor
Exhibitor: Anthony Warfield



Best Multiple Bromeliad
xDycklirium Megalodon
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl



Best Multiple Bromeliad
xDycklirium Megalodon
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl



Best Multiple Foliage
Billbergia stenopetala
Exhibitor: Betty Ann Prevatt
Continued next page



Continued **December 2019 Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Show**



**Best Multiple Blooming Div. II
Bob Whitman & Best Cryptanthus
Cryptanthus teretifolius
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux**



**Best Horticultural Display
Division III - Multiple
Catopsis berteroniana
Exhibitor: Dr. Terrie Bert**



**Best Horticultural Display
DIV III - Blooming
Tillandsia Lucille
Dr. Terrie Bert**



**Best Decorative Container
Cryptanthus Faux Meniscal
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux**



**Best Judges Challenge Entry
Cryptanthus Absolute Zero
Exhibitor: Jay Thurrott**



**Best Cryptanthus Hybrid
Warren Loose Award
Crypt. Tropical Heat Wave
Dr. Larry Giroux**



**Members Choice -1st Place
Deuterocohnia lorentziana
Exhibitor: Brian Weber**



**Members Choice-2nd Place
Dyckia Arizona
Brian Weber**



**Members Choice-3rd Place
Neoregelia Lucifer
Exhibitor: Dr. Gary Nelson**



Continued **December 2019 Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Show**



**Neoregelia More Salt
and Pepper Please
by Robert Mier**



**Tillandsia streptophylla
by Alison Ackerman**



**Neoregelia Red Waif
by Mike Michalski**



**Tillandsia Sweet Isabel
By Terrie Bert**



**Vriesea gigantea
By Dr. Gary Nelson**



**Tillandsia ionantha
var. van-hyningii
Betty Ann Prevatt**



**Tillandsia tricolor
by Alison Ackerman**



**Neoregelia Melanie
By Terrie Bert**



**Dyckia Plataphyllia
By Diane Cornelison**



Continued **December 2019 Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Show**



Crypt. Don Garrison
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux



Till. Heather's Blush
Exhibitor Betsy Burdette



Neoregelia Bonus Prize
Exhibitor Jeff Jaffe



Billbergia Casablanca
Exhibitor: Debbie Hughes



Tillandsia liliputiana
Exhibitor: Elizabeth Miglioie



Neoregelia Fireball variegated
Exhibitor Kathleen Janssen



Quesnela Marmorata Tim Plowman
Exhibitor: Bill Sheffield

Neoregelia Pauciflora
Exhibitor Pete Diamond



Neoregelia Black Olive
Exhibitor Michael Kiehl



Billbergia Hallelujah variegated
Exhibitor Carly Pfalz

Hechtia laxissima
Exhibitor Stephen Seal

©Photos by Carol Wolfe



The Artistic Design

By Tom Wolfe



All art form conforms to the same basic design standards. Through the application of such standards an individual can create a pleasing designs worthy of blue ribbons using the **Elements of Design**, which are:

1. Line, 2. Form, 3. Color, 4. Texture, 5. Pattern, 6. Size, 7. Space, and 8. Light.

A person is able to build a design by incorporating the elements of design into their creation. In the November 2019 FCBS Newsletter, we covered these elements in detail with examples and you can refer to the previous Newsletter if you wish to review them.

The six standards of visual art is called **The Principles of Design**:

1. **Balance** is the distribution of the visual weight of objects, colors, texture, and space. If the design was a scale, these elements should be balanced to make a design feel stable.



2. **Contrast**—Contrast can be used to create variety, visual interest, and drama in an arrangement. The principle of contrast refers to the arrangement of opposite elements and effects. For example, light and dark colors, smooth and rough textures, large and small shapes.

Contrast is very useful for creating a focal point, or a spot to which your eye is naturally drawn, as well as giving objects greater visual weight and balancing the image. Using bright or muted colors can be a strategic way to create places of high or low contrast in a design. Bright colors always attract attention, especially against black.

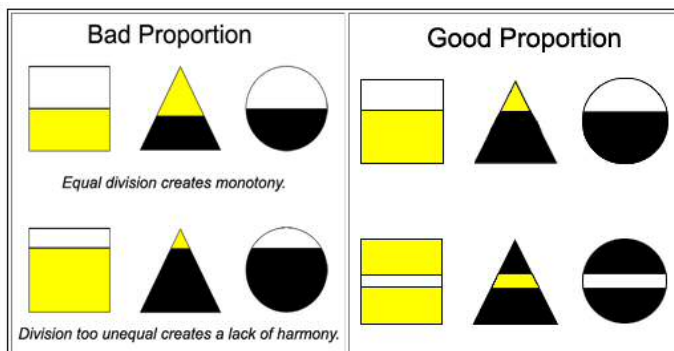


3. **Dominance**—The principle of dominance applied to how the different elements of design can be adjusted to give emphasis to an object. In order for some elements in a design to stand out, other elements must fade into the background.

4. **Proportion**—There are several ways for achieving good proportion: Place like elements together which are similar in character or have a common feature. Create major and minor areas in the design, as equal parts can quickly become boring. However, the differences in size must not be so great as to make the parts appear unrelated and therefore, out of harmony with each other.

Dividing up the composition in halves, quarters and thirds should be avoided. A subtle relationship creates a more dynamic design. Create harmony in the design. Harmony is an agreement between the shapes that stresses the similarities of all parts. In other words, the shape of one part should “fit” the shape of the adjoining elements. Shapes should “fit” properly in their positions and spaces.

5. **Scale** and proportion in **design** are both concerned with size. **Scale** is the size of one object in relation to the other objects in a design. Scale can be used to create visual impact by creating a sense of depth.





6. **Rhythm** is a principle of design that suggests movement or action. Rhythm is usually achieved through repetition of lines, shapes, colors, and more.

These standards are used in all visual art forms. Judges must always apply the Principles of Design and the Elements of Design whenever they evaluate designs; therefore, all judges must have a clear understanding of this application.

Plastic organization refers to the thoughtful placement of components within a three-dimensional area: (1) Height, (2) Width and (3) Depth in order to conform to the space allotted to you.

Any natural plant material may be used, however no artificial plant material may be used. One or more accessories such as vases, driftwood, wire, pipe, cups, plates, etc., may be used. One's imagination and artistic ability comes into play at that point; however, **bromeliads must be dominant.**



Designs do not need to be complex as usually simple

designs may be much more effective. Always consult the show schedule, "The Law of the Show", for additional help in understanding what is required.

Designs created by Kay Miller of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay for their Annual Show

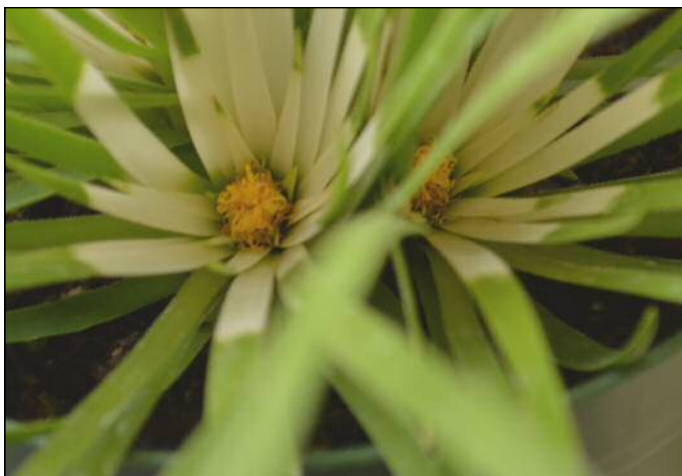
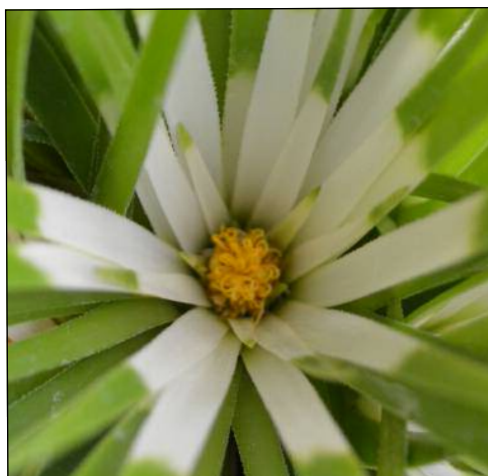


**FCBS Speakers
Bureau****Programs**

Jay Thurrott	ABC'S of Bromeliads
Dave Johnston	Basic Bromeliad Culture
Dave Johnston	Billbergias
Kenneth Stokes	Bromeliad Botany
Jason Mellica	Bromeliad Hybrids: What the Future Holds
Guillermo Rivera	Bromeliad Paradise Part II
Stephen Littlefield	Bromeliads in Art
Marty Folk	Bromeliads in the landscape
Mark Peters	Crotons
Alton Lee	Cryptanthus
Anthony Warfield	Cryptanthus
Dr. Hector Urbina	Disease of Bromeliads in FL
Dennis Cathcart	Early Days of Chasing Snakes, to the Beginnings of Tropiflora, to the Fantastic Gardens by the Bay in Singapore
Tom Wolfe	Florida's Native Bromeliad Species—their habitats & availability
John Boardman	Genus Neoregelia
Jay Thurrott	Growing Bromeliads from Seed
Ray Lemieux	Growing Bromeliads From Seeds
Jay Thurrott	Growing Bromeliads in Northern California
Ken Stokes	Growing Bromeliads not Usually Found in the 'Big Box Stores'
Dick Daley	Growing Cryptanthus on new medium GRODAN
Kenneth Stokes	How to Read Bromeliads
Marty Baxley	It's a Small World
Frane Matawijcyk	Making Kokodama Balls-----*
John Boardman	Mother's Day Show and Sale & Pam explained filling out show tickets
Bob Smedley	Mounting Alternatives for Bromeliads
Bob Smedley	Mounting Bromeliads & Landscape Display
Richard Poole	Mounting Bromeliads on Driftwood and other interesting structures
Tom Wolfe	Neoregelias for Everyone
Dave Johnson	New Bromeliad species & Hybrids
Bruce Holst (Selby)	New Bromeliads from Jalisco State, Mexico
Alton Lee	Nidulariums: The Forgotten Bromeliads
Ray Lemieux	Overview of Bromeliads
Dr. Howard Frank	Pest Insects of Bromeliads in Florida
Dr Terri Bert	Pitcairnia & Puyos
Kenneth Stokes	Practical Advice on Growing Beautiful Bromeliads

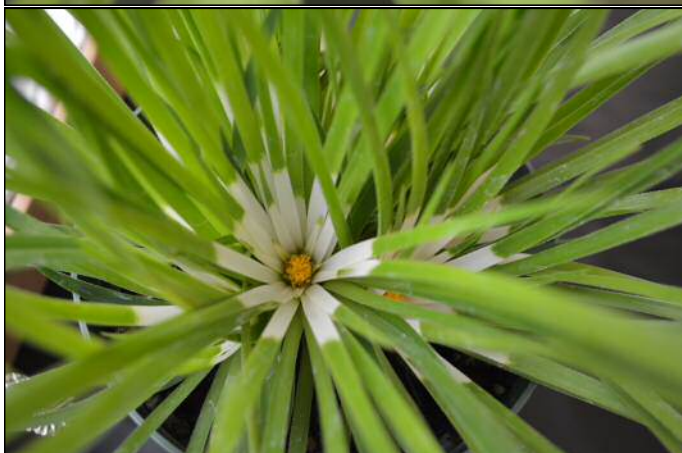


Alan Bennett	Preparing Plants for Show & Sale
Tom Wolfe	Remembering the Extraordinary life of Roberto Burle-Marx
Jay Thurrott	San Francisco Bay area Bromeliads
Dr. Zee Ahmed	Scales of Bromeliads
Mary Sue Beeler	Singapore's 'Gardens by the Bay'
Marian Kennell	The Genus Aechmea (Herb Plover)
Tom Wolfe	The Kaleidoscope of Neos
Ray Lemieux	Tillandsias
Marty Baxley	Trip to Peru
Ray Lemieux	Uncommon Genera—Puya & Orthophytum
Bernie Moro	Vermiculture
Kenneth Stokes	What's in a Name



*Navid lacteal Exhibited by
Eloise Beach—2018 BSCF
Annual Show*

©Photos by Carol Wolfe





Werauhia kupperiana

By Nick Bethmann

My favorite bromeliad is *Werauhia kupperiana*. It took me a few years to realize that it was my favorite but it has been my favorite bromeliad since 2012.

I've only ever seen it for sale once, 10 years ago, and I was glad that I bought it. It reliably flowers and reproduces every two years but I only ever get the one replacement that slowly pushes the old mother aside.



The inflorescence isn't too spectacular although it is big and lasts quite some time. The main attraction is the wide, stiff, mottled leaves. It happily grows in major sun and seems to be very hardy. I've never even repotted it in the 10 years I've had it. If I had more, I would certainly put one in the ground to see what happens. If you ever see one for sale, I strongly recommend you buy it.

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Continued

Growing From Seeds



I've collected the seeds many times and have yet to grow any to maturity. They sprout just fine and grow for a while but then I eventually kill them.

I've sent seeds to Tropiflora but I don't think they've had any luck yet with my seed.

I do have some growing on a piece of palm root but every time I move a few to potting mix they slowly die.





On a trip to Costa Rica in 2014 I was very surprised to find *W. kupperiana* growing epiphytically in full sun at Arenal volcano. I also found it growing epiphytically in much more shady conditions.

I shouldn't have been surprised to find it but I guess I forgot that it's been reported in Costa Rica and Ecuador and maybe other places but I don't have that data.

*Werauhia
kupperiana
growing
epiphytically
in full sun at
Arenal volcano
Costa Rica*



Nick Bethman is a Representative from the Bromeliad Society of Palm Beaches on the FCBS. He is also the President and Newsletter Editor for the Society. Nick lives in Boca Raton and has a BS and MS in Computer Science. Nick previously served the Bromeliad Society International as Webmaster.



Call for Nominations for the Wally Berg Award of Excellence



Theresa M. Bert, BSI Nominations Chair
9251 13th Ave. Cir. NW
Bradenton, FL 34209-8305.
E-mail: theresa.bert1949@gmail.com.

Introduction

The Wally Berg Award of Excellence was initiated in 1999 to honor the late Wally Berg (1927-2000) of Sarasota, Florida. Wally and his wife Dorothy were extraordinary bromeliad growers. Their private collection was one of the most diversified and unique in the world. The setting of their bromeliad gardens was magnificent and immaculate.

Wally was an enthusiastic supporter of the BSI. He donated many rare plants for sales and auctions that benefited the BSI, the Bromeliad Identification Center at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, research on the "Evil Weevil", and other worthy causes. He volunteered many hours of service at Selby Gardens. He had a broad knowledge of bromeliad horticulture and science and frequently spoke to bromeliad societies on a variety of topics, especially on his adventures exploring and collecting in Central and South America. He served many offices in the Sarasota Bromeliad Society. He introduced several *Aechmea* cultivars into culture and created several hybrids. He frequently won top awards, including Best in Show at BSI world bromeliad conferences and Florida local and regional bromeliad shows. A number of bromeliad species were named in his honor.

For a detailed history of the BSI Wally Berg Award of Excellence, see http://www.bsi.org/bsi_info/awards/wally_berg.html. Some of Wally and Dorothy Berg's achievements and adventures are featured on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' website: <http://fcbs.org/> under Photo Index--Programs--see [Berg Cage](#) and [Bromeliads in Habitat](#).

Following are the award criteria and procedures for nomination. Individuals, couples, or members deceased within the past two years, are eligible. Please note that, contrary to the statement in the BSI web page (in Procedure 4, for nomination and winner selection, "Any previous, non-winning nominees will automatically be included in the current list of nominees as long as they meet the current rules as specified in the nomination procedures."), previous non-winning nominees will not be automatically considered. Only nominees submitted during the 2020 call for nominations will be considered. There are simply too many past nominees to include all of them. Nominees must be past (for posthumous nominations) or present members of the BSI and nominators be present BSI members in good standing.

Award Criteria

1. The Individuals must be past or present members of the BSI.
2. The individuals should be bromeliad growers who are nationally or internationally recognized for diversity of species cultivated and excellence of cultivation.
3. The individuals should actively pursue one of the following activities:
 - a. collecting and identifying bromeliads in natural environments, including collecting new species/varieties/cultivars; the members of the various bromeliad societies and organizations, including the BSI and the BIC, should benefit from this activity;

Continued on next page



- b. promoting the appreciation and cultivation of bromeliads at the international level, including such activities as organizing and participating in collecting trips with international representation, giving presentations and seminars to national and international audiences, and writing manuscripts for publication in national or international books, journals, or other media (e.g. Internet, CD ROMS).
4. The individuals should actively support efforts to further the scientific, taxonomic, or cultural understanding of bromeliads through donation of time, effort, or money to recognized organizations, institutions, or groups of individuals (e.g., the BSI, BIC, Selby Botanical Gardens, bromeliad clubs or councils).
5. The individuals should be active in a local, regional, or national bromeliad society and be recognized by other members of that society for their contributions to the functioning of that society and its activities.
6. If the individuals are bromeliad hybridizers, they should be internationally recognized for excellence in one or more of the following categories:
 - a. innovation in creating bromeliad hybrids,
 - b. success in cultivation of bromeliad hybrids,
 - c. promotion and distribution of bromeliad hybrids.
7. The individuals should be generally recognized as experts in one or more of the following aspects of bromeliads:
 - a. ecology, evolution, or taxonomy,
 - b. cultivation or hybridization,
 - c. display or exhibition.
8. The individuals should be generally recognized for their generous nature in sharing knowledge of bromeliads and for personal giving for the benefit of other people interested in bromeliads and for bromeliad organizations at all levels.

Procedures for Nomination

1. Nominators must be present members of the BSI.
2. The nominator should submit the nomination in writing by electronic mail. The nominator should provide a brief resume of the accomplishments of the nominee(s) in bromeliad-related activities (e.g., service, offices held, major awards won) and a letter describing the way in which the nominee(s) meets at least four of Criteria 2-8 listed above. Past nominees may be re-nominated if they meet the current award criteria. Previous award winners are ineligible for re-nomination.
3. Please send nominations to theresa.bert1949@gmail.com.
4. **Submissions must be received by April 1, 2020.**

The winner's name will be published in the BSI Journal and posted on the BSI website. The winner or his/her representative will receive the award at the June 2020 BSI World Conference in Sarasota, Florida. One award is made every two years.





Wally & Dorothy Berg

REPRINT

**HISTORY OF THE “WALLY BERG AWARD”
Wally Berg (1927-2000) Dorothy Berg (1926-2014)**

*(Reprinted from previously published articles
in the BGTB Newsletter and excerpts the fcbs.org, BSI
publications & personal notes)*

A Tribute to Wally Berg (August 2000)

By: Tom Wolfe. President of the Bromeliad Society International

In the passing of Wally Berg the Bromeliad Society International as well as the bromeliad world in general has lost a good friend, an avid collector, an ambassador, a humanitarian and an explorer. But I believe we will miss Wally the most because he was just an all around nice guy. He and his wife, Dorothy, had a great gift of hospitality, sharing their bromeliad collection and garden with people from all over the world. They provided temporary room and board to bromeliad folks from far and near whenever they were passing through Sarasota, Florida.

Wally is known by many for his excellent programs on collecting bromeliads in Central and South America and his expertise on the species. Also, he volunteered many hours working at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens where he gave workshops, assisted Harry Luther in the greenhouses or wherever he was needed, and was an intricate part of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society. Wally was also very highly respected by his church family as well as in his neighborhood. He was one of a kind and left a great legacy for all his family and friends.

The BSI has awarded him the Horticulture Award of Excellence and has created **"The Wally Berg Award of Excellence"** to be presented at future World Bromeliad Conferences to a worthy recipient.

BSI President Tom Wolfe initiated the idea and title "Wally Berg Award of Excellence" as a permanent trophy in response to a number of BSI members who thought Wally Berg's achievements should be formally recognized. The BSI Board of Directors at their May, 2000 Annual Board Meeting appointed Dr. Theresa Bert to head an ad hoc committee established to define the criteria to be used in selecting potential recipients of the Award. Dan Kinnard, Jack Reilly and Hattie Lou Smith were the other ad hoc committee members, who felt the Award should reflect Wally's contributions to the bromeliad world and to the BSI. The Award is to be presented every two years at the World Bromeliad Conferences to the individual or couple selected by the BSI Board of Directors as most closely meeting the criteria.

The Committee also clearly recognized that many well-qualified individuals or couples may not meet all of the listed criteria and therefore requested that each nominee should meet at least four of the seven criteria which were approved by the Board of Directors at its May, 2001 annual meeting. These inaugural criteria, printed in the BSI Journal Nov.-Dec. 2001, pp. 272-274 remain largely intact.

Dr. Theresa Bert was appointed Curator of the Award in May 2002, which position announces the call for nominations in the BSI Journal in each year preceding the Award presentation.

The BSI Journal Jan/Feb, 2000 issue (page 39) announced the new Wally Berg Award of Excellence. Wally Berg died on 26th March, 2000.

At that stage no Award Criteria had been decided upon and the BSI Board considered that a fitting tribute at the imminent World Bromeliad Conference in San Francisco would be to present the first Award to Wally posthumously and to Dorothy Berg for her team support in Wally's achievements.

Year	AWARD RECEIPENTS
2000	Dorothy Berg, in honor of Wally Berg and Dorothy for her support of his achievements
2002	Dennis Cathcart
2004	John Anderson (posthumously)
2006	Harry Luther
2008	Grace Goode
2010	Elton Leme
2012	Derek Butcher
2014	Nat De Leon
2016	Odean Head
2018	Eric Gouda



The BSI Standard Show
in
The Big Show

by
Dr. Theresa M. Bert



It's time to start thinking about showing plants in the Bromeliad Society International (BSI) standard show at the BSI World Conference, which is entitled "*The Big Show!*" With so many "shows" in the playing field, it's difficult to determine exactly which "show" a person is talking about. I'll make this easy—mostly, I'll be talking about the bromeliad show that is judged, which is a part of "The Big Show." But, first, a bit about "The Big Show." If you've never attended a BSI world conference, now is the time! It's right here in Florida, in the middle part of the state (so it's not too far to drive, unless you live in the Panhandle); it's affordable (the registration fee is not exorbitant, for a multi-day, multi-event conference); it will be held in a beautiful place (lovely hotel, with an elegant pool and views of Sarasota Bay) within walking distance of all types of fun places and things (downtown Sarasota); the hotel cost is surprisingly reasonable (\$149/night), considering that it's centrally located in a city; and best of all, it won't be tourist season (!). The weather should be beautiful (usually is, in June) and without hurricanes. In addition to the show, there are presentations by internationally renowned bromeliad experts, tours to outstanding commercial bromeliad nurseries and to Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, loads of bromeliads for sale, an evening cocktail social, a rare plant auction, and a big banquet. You can be immersed in the bromeliad world, learn a lot about bromeliads and their care, and meet interesting fellow bromeliophiles from all walks of life. Now is your chance to sign up; take advantage of it (<https://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner>).

Now, about the "standard" show within The Big Show. There are two basic types of BSI shows—standard and judged. A standard show has categories, divisions, and sections like the ones I'll summarize here. A judged show has different groupings, such as divisions separated by bromeliad genus. Both types of BSI shows are good; they're just different.

To enter bromeliads in the show, you'll need to be registered for the conference. You can enter up to 20 items in the show. The time to start targeting plants for the show is now. No need to pamper them, set them aside, or fertilize them. If they look good now, they're growing where they do well. You don't want to rock that boat! Just keep an eye on them and make sure nothing harms them. Oddly, those plants may self-destruct within weeks before the show. That seems to be the way it goes. So, take good care of all plants that look like potential entry candidates. And when the time comes to prepare plants for the show, look in the deepest recesses of your bromeliad gardens. Often, the best plants lurk there, out of harm's way and untouched for months. In previous issues of the FCBS Newsletter, I've discussed how to prepare bromeliads for show in some detail. *

There are restrictions on the bromeliads and other items you can enter. You must have possessed each bromeliad you wish to enter for at least 6 months before the show entry date. You can enter up to 20 bromeliads, bromeliad arrangements or other artistic displays, designs, or art work. Twenty is the absolute total and includes all entries of all types. That may sound restrictive, but finding 20 "perfect" bromeliads can be difficult. I have about 2,000, and it's usually difficult for me to find 20 "show-worthy" plants at a single time. But then, I've been a certified BSI judge for 22 years and have become adept at finding small imperfections that seem huge to me. You don't need to be that picky!

What type of bromeliads should you be looking for? Following is the hierarchy of groupings available to you. Each plant or other item that you enter must fit into one of these groupings. The list is very comprehensive. You should be able to find a group for just about anything you'd like to enter.

CATEGORY I – HORTICULTURE

Entries must be potted in unadorned pots and be grown originally from a single plant. Multiple plants should have evidence of connectivity. Plants may have pups too small to grow independently (usually 1/3 of the parental size, or less). Top dressings may be used, but should not draw attention.

Plants in Horticultural Display must be free-standing or mounted on or in a non-standard-container with non-decorative materials (that have no artistic or decorative embellishment). They must have evidence of being rooted to the mount or of living and growing on the mount long enough to be well-established.



Individual Plant, Blooming, Potted--Plant must be mature and have a visible inflorescence or characteristics of a developing inflorescence.

Individual Plant, Foliage, Potted--Plant must be mature and must not have an inflorescence.

Multiple Plants, Blooming, Potted--Two or more mature plants growing interconnectedly; at least one plant must have a visible inflorescence or characteristics of a developing inflorescence.

Multiple Plants, Foliage, Potted--Two or more mature plants growing interconnectedly; no plant should have a visible inflorescence or characteristics of a developing inflorescence.

Horticultural Displays, Single--Single plant mounted on or placed within wood or some other non-decorative mounting medium; plant must have evidence of growing on or long-term connection with the material. Plant can be blooming (have evidence of an inflorescence) or non-blooming (foliage only; no evidence of an inflorescence).

Horticultural Displays, Multiple--Same criteria as for a single-plant horticultural display, but multiple plants are growing on or in same medium or mount; plants may be separate; they do not need to be connected; multiple species may be used. Plant can be blooming (have evidence of an inflorescence) or non-blooming (foliage only; no evidence of an inflorescence).

CATEGORY II - ARTISTIC DESIGN

Entries into these divisions are bromeliads on or in containers or mounts that are decorative (i.e., add to the esthetics of the entry).

Decorative Container-- Items such as fancy ceramic pots, ceramic animals or figures, fancy bark, carved tree ferns (such as ferns carved into animal shapes), ornamental wood, rocks, sea shells, and other containers that attract the eye and are finished in some way. Plants can be placed in the container specifically for the judging and do not have to be grown in the container in which they are exhibited. The pot in which the plant is grown may be placed into the decorative container and hidden in some way. Decorative containers can be either hanging or be set upon the table. The artistic creation may be named, but that is not required.

Artistic Arrangement--A floral design of bromeliads and/or bromeliad foliages, inflorescences, roots, stolons, etc. used singly or in combination with other plant materials or manmade materials (no artificial plant material may be used) and organized according to the principles of design to express beauty. One or more accessories (designer's choice), bases, and backgrounds are permitted. Other plant material, fresh or dried may be used, but bromeliads must be emphasized. Only dried material may be painted. Plants may be placed in the arrangement just prior to exhibition in the show. They must have been grown by the exhibitor, borrowed, or purchased for the arrangement. The artistic creation must be named.

Artistic Expression--This group includes all types of bromeliad-related art except decorative containers and arrangements. Bromeliads must be the focal point of the exhibit, but live or dried bromeliads or their parts, may not be used. Entries include creations such as original artwork, prints, photography, ceramics, quilting, etc. Exhibitors with large or unusual size entries must provide their own mechanics for exhibition. Entries must have been executed by the exhibitor.

Now you have the fundamental information to start preparing your bromeliads for the show and creating a work of art that involves or relates to bromeliads. A complete guide to entering plants and other bromeliad-related items into the BSI show at *The Big Show* will be published in the next issue of the FCBS Newsletter. Showing plants and artistic creations in bromeliad shows is fun and very rewarding. At several levels in the grouping hierarchy, there are prizes for the best plants or artistic creation. So, show off your bromeliads and bromeliad art and have some fun with other bromeliad enthusiasts. Go to the conference and put entries into the show. See ya' there!



* Bert, T. M. 2018. Tips for preparing bromeliads for shows-mounted plants. FCBS Newsletter 38(2):8-10.

Bert, T. M. 2018. Tips for preparing bromeliads for show. FCBS Newsletter 38(1):8-10.



*Tillandsia Corinne x
Tillandsia capitata forma red*

*This beautiful hybrid
needs a name.*

Maybe Tillandsia Elegant?

By Carol Wolfe

We have owned this plant for many years and each year when it comes into bloom, Tom hangs it by the front door and it brings us daily pleasure admiring it and enjoying its beauty. It is so stately when in bloom. Purple flowers rise above the subdued red foliage in all their “majesty”. That would be a good name for it! Oops, someone else thought of it first and the name is taken. Ah, about Tillandsia Elegant? Would that be a fitting name for this T. Elegant bromeliad? Why does it need a name? We have many plants in our collections that do not have a name and haven’t had a name for 40—50 years. So why does it matter?

When Herb Plever received our FCBS Newsletter, he would email me about using the “parents name”. I tried to convince him that in Florida it was our Standard Practice to use parents names. But he felt strongly that each plant should have its own name. For most of us, it is easier to remember one name than the parent crosses. Although we strive to



©Photos Carol Wolfe Photo

make sure each plant has a name tags, they get lost or break and the squirrels carry them away. When this happens, I agree that it is much easier to remember the plant name as opposed to remembering the parentage.

It was Derek Butcher explanation that really helped me understand the problem. Derek asked how many children were in your family growing up? I told him ten. From oldest to youngest were , Jerry, Wayne, Joyce, Carol, Bobby, Jeannie, Fran, Suzanne, Donnie and Terry. Now Derek asks what if all ten of you grew up with your parents name (Codus x Jerena) would that have been confusing? Of course, growing up with that many brothers and sisters, using our parents name would have been mass confusion! Point made and this illustration was just what I needed to understand what he and Herb Plever had been telling me the last five years about bromeliad names and why each plant needs its own individual name.

What I didn’t know was that an unknown hybrid could be registered with the BSI Cultivar Registry even though you are not the hybridizer. I loved this plant so much, I completed the on-line form on the BSI.org site and perhaps this beautiful bromeliad will soon have its own name, Tillandsia Elegant. Do you have an unregistered bromeliad? If you really love the plant, you may want to consider naming it. The process with the BSI Register is simple to complete. It would be so much easier for our members and the public to have names on all our bromeliads.

What a pity that whomever made this cross is not getting the credit. It’s never to late for the “real hybridizer” to step up and get the credit for this beautiful, stately, elegant bromeliad!! Let me know if it’s your hybrid and we’ll transfer the credit to the true “Parent”. The next time it blooms and I step out my door, I won’t have to remember Tillandsia Corinne x Tillandsia capitata forma red, I’ll just say, Good morning Tillandsia Elegant!



Ten Most Popular New Year's Resolutions

These were the most popular resolutions: (Purple print for “bromeliad people”!)

NORMAL PERSON - BROMELIAD ADDICT'S INTERRUPTION

1. Exercise more (get out to the greenhouse and pull weeds-you may find new muscle to exercise that you didn't know you had)
2. Lose weight (jump up and down over your new bromeliad purchase)
3. Get organized (organize your calendar for bromeliad events for the whole year so you don't miss anything)
4. Learn a new skill or hobby (grow bromeliads from seeds or mounting or make a hanging basket)
5. Live life to the fullest (Go to the World Bromeliad Conference in Sarasota, Florida)
6. Save more money / spend less money (oops, too late, blew my bundle at the Extravaganza)
7. Quit smoking (smoking new hybrids at Michaels)
8. Spend more time with family and friends
(call your bromeliad family, text, email, have them over for coffee or meet at Starbucks)
9. Travel more (Educational and refreshing to see other bromeliad collections)
10. Read more (always learning more about bromeliads will keeps the brain active)

Neoregelia Hellfire
Exhibited by
John Boardman in
2018 BSCF annual show.





Draft Minutes
MINUTES OF THE FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES
October 26, 2019



**FCBS Representatives meeting at Mounts Botanical Garden led by Mike Saunders
2019 FCBS Chairman and hosted by the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches**

Opening: Mike Saunders thanked the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches for lunch at the Mounts Botanical Garden. The meeting started at 12:57pm.

FCBS Member Representatives Present:

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida: Betsy McCrory & Mike Saunders; Bromeliad Society of South Florida: Patricia Gonzalez & Mike Michalski; Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches: Nick Bethmann & Tom Ramiccio; Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society: Jack Dunlop & Jay Thurrott (alternate for Calandra); Gainesville Bromeliad Society: Sandy Burnett & Steve Provost; Sarasota Bromeliad Society: Marian Kennell & Nancy Abramson; Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society: Greg Kolojeski & Sudi Hipsley; Treasure Coast Bromeliad Society: Lynn Marino; Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society: Vicky Chirnside; Bromeliad Guild of Tampa: Tom & Carol Wolfe, Weevil Committee: Jay Thurrott & Dr. Howard Frank

Absent Members: Webmaster Mike Andreas, Calandra Thurrott, Linda Sheetz & Richard Poole

Guests: Steve Provost, BSI Archives; Barbara Partagas, BSI; and Mark Kennell.

Officers Reports:

Minutes of June meeting: Sandy Burnett, Secretary, submitted this report four weeks after the meeting and representatives had two weeks to respond. Draft Three Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report: Sudi Hipsley, Treasurer provided the financial report & it was accepted. Betsy McCrory reported that the BSCF made \$4,000 with the Extravaganza Silent Auction and will file for audit.

Committee Reports:

Webmaster—Michael Andreas submitted the following October Web Report:

“Posted the November 2019 issue of the FCBS Newsletter. The latest FCBS newsletter can always be access from the “What’s New” page or, if you want to access all the newsletters, they can be found under “About FCBS” along with information about meetings and rotation schedules.

Newsletters can also be accessed at <http://fcbs.org/newsletters.htm>

Dr. Howard Frank has asked me if we can move his “Bromeliad Biota” web site from the University of Florida server where it now resides to the FCBS server. Howard is afraid of losing the server space since he is now retired and is not sure how much longer they will keep his pages online. This should be easily accomplished as Howard’s site consists of only a few pages. He will be able to update and make revisions.

*If you are interested, Howard’s current site is at <http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/frank/bromeliadbiota/>
Michael Andreas, Webmaster”*



FCBS Newsletter Report: Carol Wolfe discussed the use of Dropbox link on the FCBS webpage to share the newsletter. It is much easier to send the newsletter out. Special thanks to Michael for his suggestion of using Dropbox. <http://fcbs.org/newsletters/FCBS/2019/11-2019.pdf> Carol asks for each member society to provide her with a list of speakers and topics held in 2019 which she will post in the February 2020 newsletter (send by 1/15/2020). She also thanked the team effort in producing the newsletter to Jay, Tom, Greg, and Theresa. She's been Editor for the last 5 years for a total of 21 issues. Carol also thanked everyone for photos submitted. Nice job, Carol!



Sudi Hipsley gives the Treasurer's report. Front row: Sudi, Betsy McCrory, 2nd row: Tom Ramiccio, and Nick Bethmann

Weevil Committee: Jay Thurrott said that the committee is stymied at the present. There is an issue with the Tillandsia utriculata from Belize, a published paper suggests that it may not be the correct species/or a separate species. The Weevil committee is open to suggestions. Jay spoke with Bruce Holst and the difficulty obtaining DNA analysis. There will be a weevil meeting on November 22nd at Selby Gardens to discuss the weevil problem, FCBS member societies are welcome to attend.

FCBS Roster: will be due in March 2020.

Archives: Steve Provost announced that materials collected by Carolyn Schoenau were received and that Bruce Holst gave original photos used in BSI Journals. The digitization process is to start before the end of the year.

BSI news: Wes Schilling and Herb Plever died recently.

Greg Kolojeski and Marian Kennell: See attached handouts. Still looking for Chairs and volunteers.

New, first-time membership to BSI as of Nov 1st, \$15 for electronic BSI journal. Individual electronic \$25 and dual electronic \$35. Rates for printed journal still available. Must be a BSI member to register for WBC 2020. Hope to have 200 registrants.

Marian Kennell announced that Tom Ramiccio will be Chair of Publicity. She also asked how to do "In Memory of"—list of deceased in brochure, slide show presentation? What if member societies join together to host a lunch or early breakfast for the international guests (10-20 people), or make a raffle basket? Plants will be needed for judging too.

Jay Thurrott suggested a "meet & greet" held by the FCBS, there's no option for a cash bar at the hotel, hors d'oeuvres \$40/dozen and higher and there would be a 24% service charge. Greg Kolojeski asked about having it at another location in Sarasota. Discussion ensued. Unanimous vote agreeing to pay up to \$3,000 for some type of event hosted by the FCBS. Each member society to purchase an ad in the WBC 2020 program.



*L to R 1st row: Jack Dunlop, Steven Provost
2nd Row: Mike Michalski & Patty Gonzalez*



*Jay Thurrott
Weevil report*

Handouts:WBC 2020 Open Chairs/ Cash Register Setup Coordinator/Raffle Baskets/Welcome Chair/Exhibits and Displays/Audio Visual Coordinator/Security, Contact Info: WBC 2020

Conference Co-Chairs: Marian Kennell & Greg Kolojeski
Email: theWBC2020@gmail.com

L to R: Dr. Howard Frank, Barbara Partagas, Nancy Abramson, Mark Kennell, 2nd Row: Greg Kolejeski, Marian Kennell

DRAFT MINUTES TO BE VOTED ON AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE FCBS MEETING FEBRUARY 2020.



©Photos by Carol Wolfe



World Bromeliad Conference June 10-13, 2020 Hyatt Regency Sarasota

World Bromeliad Conference 2020

Join Bromeliad lovers from around the world at the Bromeliad Society International's 24th World Bromeliad Conference which will be held in Sarasota for the first time!

Attendees will have the opportunity to go behind the scenes at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens (with its collection of over 1300 Bromeliad species) and Michael's Bromeliads and Tropiflora with their collector-grade Bromeliads.

Mix and mingle with attendees from all over the world at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota with its beautiful waterfront setting and nearby fine dining, beaches, shopping, museums, and other sightseeing opportunities. Join us for the 70th anniversary of the Bromeliad Society International with this amazing opportunity to learn, grow and explore at the World Bromeliad Conference!

Speakers:

Elton Leme – Brazil
Eric Gouda – Netherlands
Ivon Ramirez – Mexico
Julian Aguirre-Santoro – Colombia
Graeme Barclay – New Zealand
Bruce Holst – Florida
Cristy Brenner – California
Jerry Rack – Ohio

Events:

Conference Opening/Reception
Judged Plant Show
A Huge Plant Sale
Optional Bus Tours
Behind-the-Scenes visits to:
Michael's Bromeliads
Tropiflora
Home Garden Visits
Guided Behind-the-Scenes Tour
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens
Banquet with Keynote Speaker
Rare Plant Auction



www.BSI.org



WBC 2020
Schedule for registrants

Wednesday, June 10, 2020

Early Morning:

Plant Show entries with prior approval

Morning: Optional

Bus Tour to **Michael's Bromeliads** lunch
and a Home Garden Visit

Evening:

Official Conference Opening, Reception and
Welcome Address

All day: Plant Show Judging

Thursday, June 11, 2020

Morning:

Optional Bus Tour to **Tropiflora**, lunch
and a Home Garden Visit

Afternoon: Plant Sale Cocktail Reception for
registrants only

Evening: Plant Sale Open for registrants only

Friday, June 12, 2020:

Morning:

Bus Tour to **Marie Selby Botanical Gar-
dens** (behind-the-scenes tour)

Afternoon: Four Speakers on Bromeliad
Topics

Morning and Afternoon: Bromeliad Show and
Sale Open

Rare Plant Auction (also open to public at 7
PM)

Saturday, June 13, 2020:

Four Speakers on Bromeliad Topics

Morning and early afternoon:

Plant Sale & Show Open

Show Open

Evening: Banquet with Keynote Speaker,

For more information on WBC 2020, just go to the
BSI website at <https://www.bsi.org> and click on the
WBC menu choice near the top. After you register
for the conference, you can also make hotel reserva-
tions at a special price with free parking and no re-
sort fees.

Conference Registration: \$335 in 2020 until May
26, 2020; \$395 at the conference

BSI Membership

To register for the conference, you need to become a
BSI member if you aren't one already. Membership rates
start at only \$15 for first-time members.

Join the BSI at <https://www.bsi.org>. Start by clicking on
the **Big Show** logo or the **World Bromeliad Confer-
ence 2020** image and then select [Make your reservation
now](#).

See you at WBC 2020 in June!

More Information

<http://theWBC2020.com>



BSI MEMBERSHIP RATES			
E-Journal	First-Time Member	Indiv.	Dual
ONE-YEAR RATE ONLY FOR FIRST TIME SUBSCRIBERS			
Electronic Only	\$15	\$25	\$35
Printed Journal			
US Bulk	\$35	\$50	\$60
US First-Class	\$40	\$55	\$65
Int'l Air Mail	\$45	\$60	\$70
THREE-YEAR RATES			
Electronic Only	N/A	\$70	\$100
Printed Journal			
US Bulk	N/A	\$140	\$170
US First-Class	N/A	\$155	\$185
Int'l Air Mail	N/A	\$170	\$200



2020 **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

- February 22** **FCBS meeting** hosted by the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society and will meet at the home of Jay and Calandar Thurrott
- March 28 –29** **BSSF Annual Show & Sale, Fairchild Gardens, Miami**
- April 3-5** **Tropiflora Spring Festival, Tropiflora Nursery, Sarasota, FL**
- April 11-12** **USF Botanical Garden Sale, Tampa, FL**
- April 18-19** **Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society Annual Spring Plant Sale**
Location: Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Drive, Sanford, FL 32773
 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM in air conditioned building.
 Thousands of bromeliads will be for sale along with orchids, aroids, succulents, ferns, heliconias, gingers, fruiting/edible plants and tropicals of all kinds. Members will be available to answer your questions and assist you in selecting the best plants for your conditions.
- May 8-10** **Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Mother’s Day Show & Sale** Fashion Square Mall
- June 9-13** **BSI World Conference**
 Sarasota Hyatt Regency
 1000 Boulevard of the Arts
 Sarasota, FL 34236
- October 10 - 11** **USF Botanical Garden Sale, Tampa, FL**

What is the FCBS?

A Group of people that meet three times a year?

Is it just a number of societies that meet once every other year for an Extravaganza?

A source of information for plant sales?

A calendar of events?



Yes, it is all that and more, it is a group of people connected, not by blood but by their addictive love of bromeliads flowing through their veins, growing them, collecting them, learning about them and getting to know the people behind the plants who share their common interest and knowledge.

Aechmea fasciata taken in Greg Kolojeski’s yard

©Photos by Carol Wolfe