



SEMBS

NOVEMBER 2019

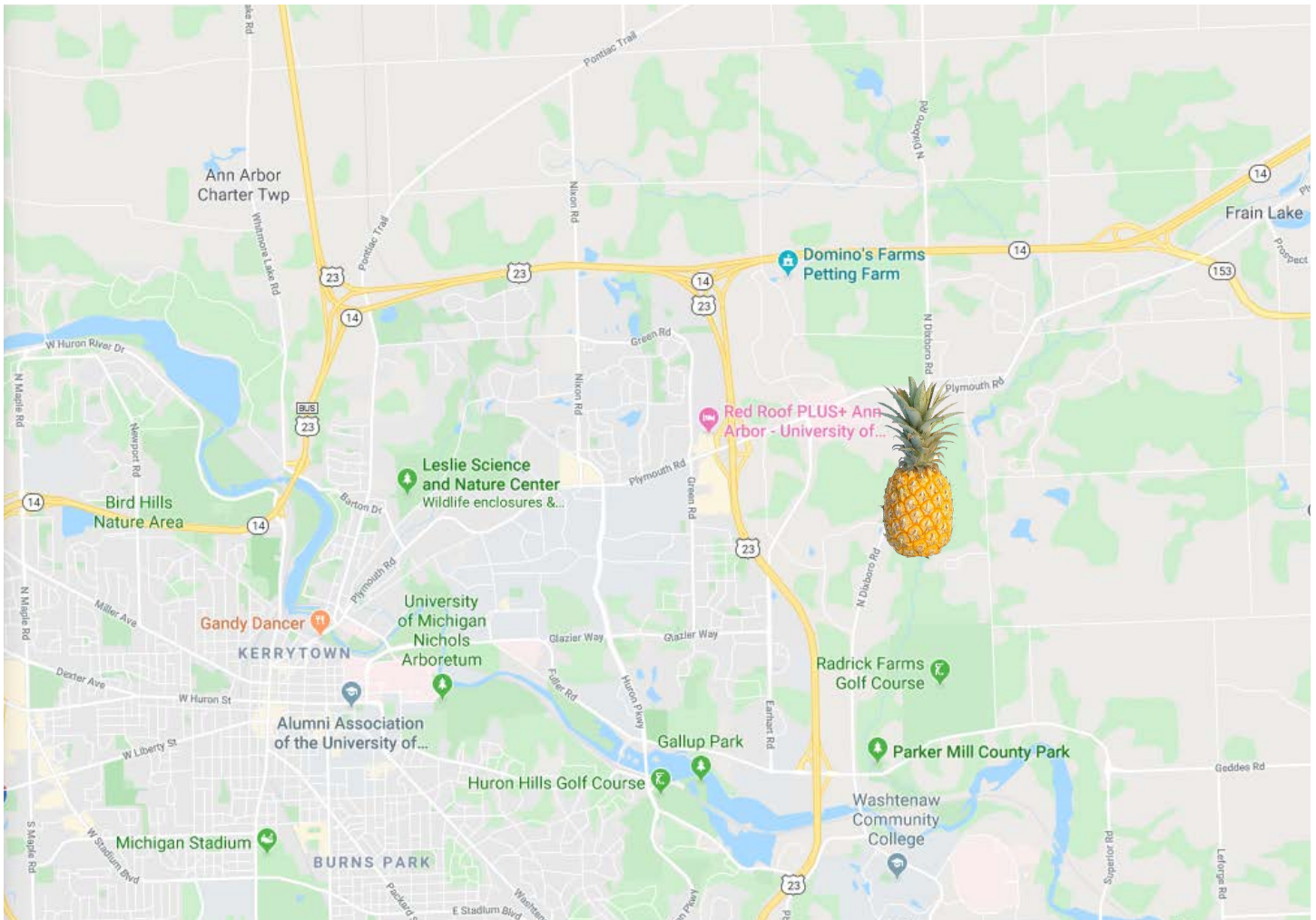
# November Meeting

This month's meeting will be held **2 p.m. Saturday, November 16th** at Matthaei botanical gardens.

Pen Goff will lead a presentation from the BSI media library, *Bromeliads A to Z*, in room 139. This will be a great primer for those with a "budding interest" in the Bromeliaceae, but also a rich source of information for the seasoned grower.

Enjoy a brief respite from the incipient winter weather in Matthaei's tropical house, where we'll peruse the bromeliads on display after the presentation.

**Matthaei Botanical Gardens**  
1800 N. Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105





At left: Paul's *Billbergia sanderiana* (top) and *Aechmea chantinii* x *zebrina* (below); right: shots of Lynne Echlin's collection, tucked in for the winter...

# WBC 2020: Register Now for Best Rates

Lowest conference registration rate available until 12/31/19

The [World Bromeliad Conference 2020](#) will be held in Sarasota, Florida, USA from Tuesday, June 9, 2020 through Saturday, June 13, 2020 at the [Hyatt Regency Sarasota](#). Events include tours of two of the world's leading Bromeliad nurseries and home garden visits, a visit to the renowned [Marie Selby Botanical Gardens](#) (with behind-the-scenes access), eight speakers, an opening conference reception and welcome address, a banquet with a rare plant auction, a huge plant sale, and a fantastic judged plant show.



NEW MEMBERSHIP RATES			
Effective Nov. 1, 2019	Membership Category		
Journal	First-Time Member or Student	Individual, Affiliate, Library, Institution or Garden	Dual or Company
<b>ONE-YEAR RATES</b>			
Electronic Only	\$15	\$25	\$35
Printed Journal			
US Bulk	\$35	\$50	\$60
US First-Class	\$40	\$55	\$65
International Air Mail	\$45	\$60	\$70
<b>THREE-YEAR RATES</b>			
Electronic Only	N/A	\$70	\$100
Printed Journal			
US Bulk	N/A	\$140	\$170
US First-Class	N/A	\$155	\$185
International Air Mail	N/A	\$170	\$200



2019

FCCBS

Extrav-

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Neoregelia 'Passion'  
A hybrid  
Right...oves...n central Flc

\$95

\$95

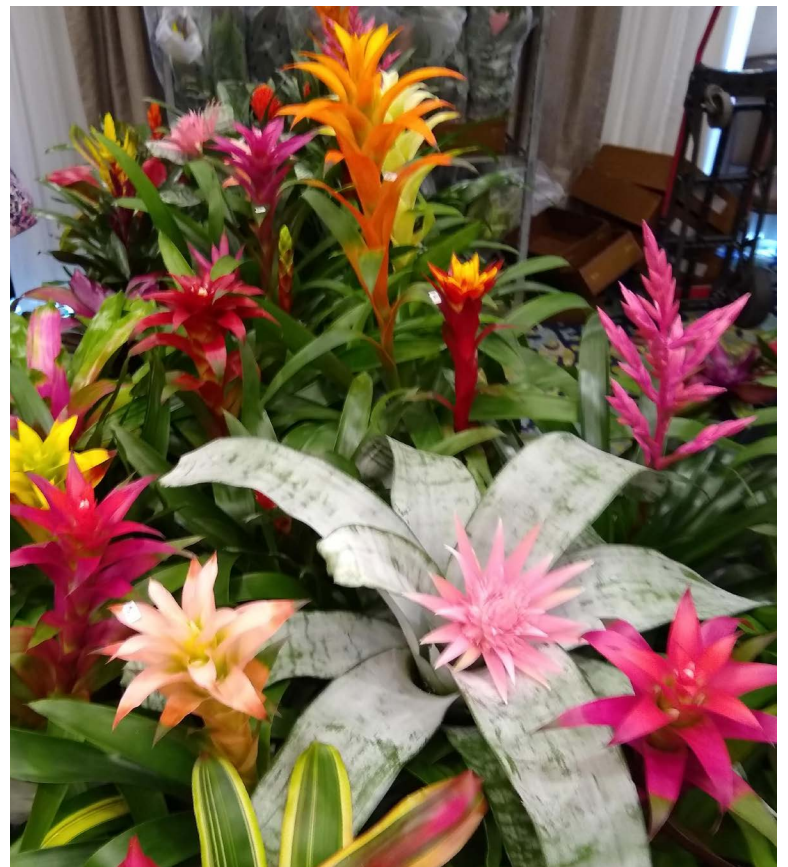
Paul Wingert | Pen Goff

The weekend following our SEMBS show at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Pen and I traveled to Orlando, FL for a BSI Board meeting, held in conjunction with the Florida Council of Bromeliads Societies "Extravaganza". Hosted this year by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, this biennial event is put on by societies around the state in rotation.

The Extravaganza is, basically, a compressed version of the World Conferences; there were no standard show or society displays, but several prominent bromeliad nurseries and a number of individual members had lots of gorgeous plants for sale. The members only pre-sale event took place Friday evening, where both of us ended up with enough plants to fill a suitcase for the return trip to Michigan!

Four informative and entertaining speakers, a banquet, and rare plant auction filled out the Saturday activities. On Sunday, given a choice of two bus tours--one to McCrory's Sunny Hill Nursery to have a behind the scenes look at the mass production process of plants for the broader commercial market, and one to the homes of John Boardman and Lisa Robinette to see their large collections of some rather extraordinary plants--we opted for the latter. A few pictures speak volumes about the experience!

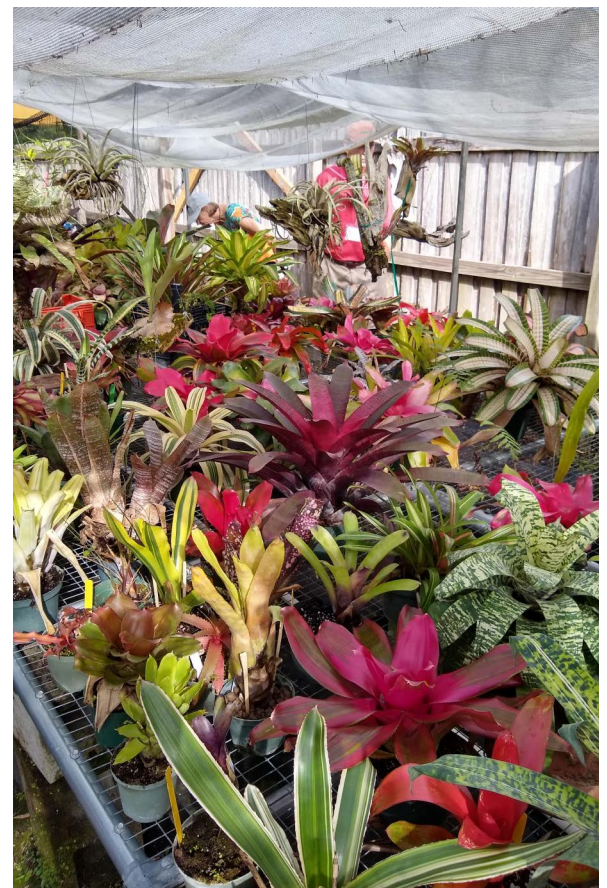
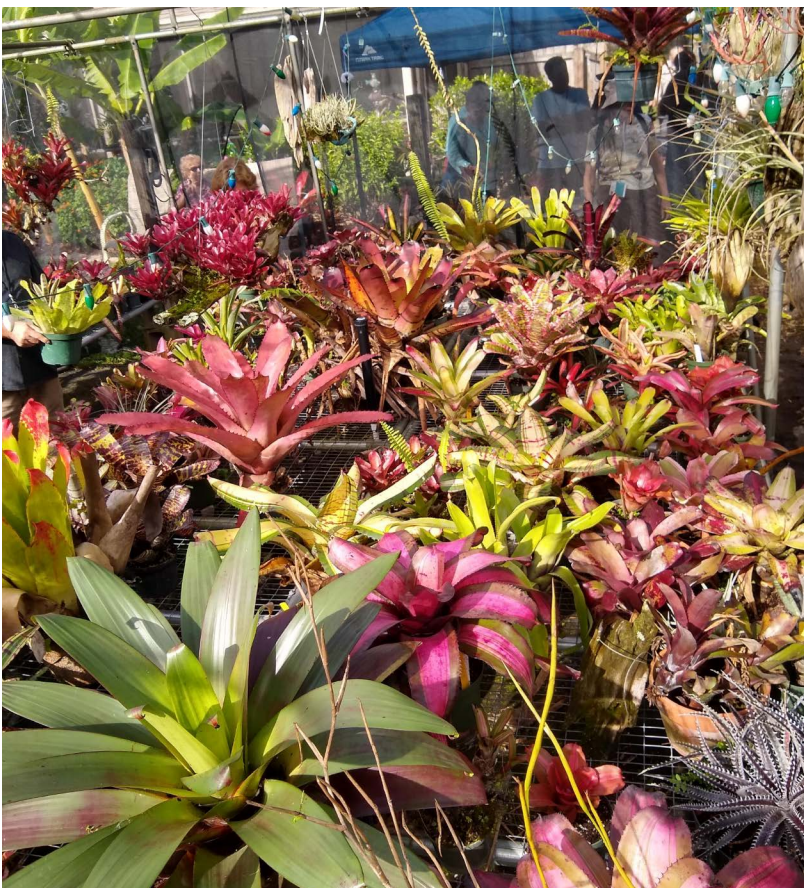
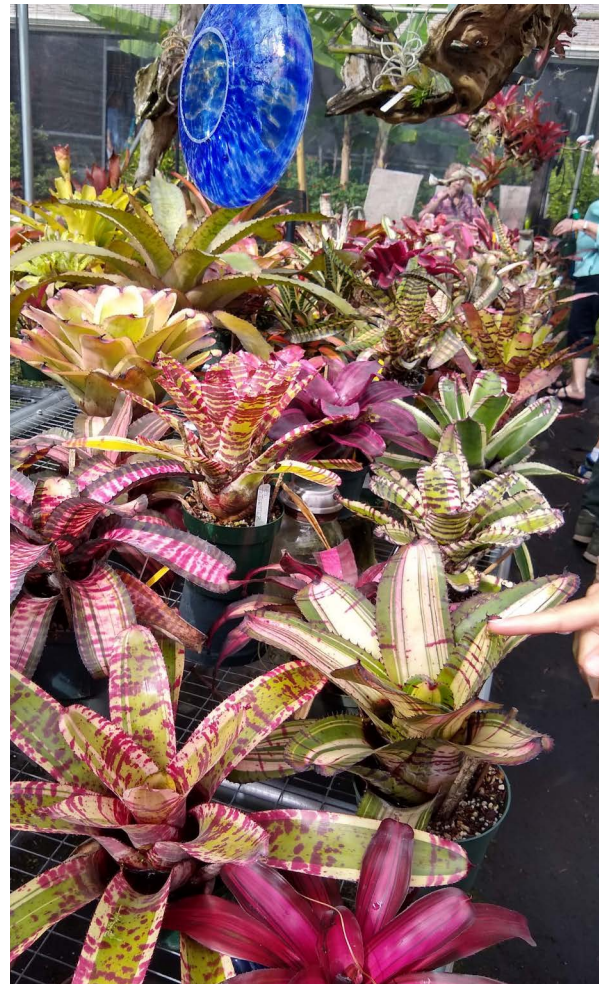
This account is aimed at whetting your appetite for the 2020 World Bromeliad Conference, held next June in Sarasota. As World Conferences go, this will be relatively inexpensive to attend: airline fares to Florida are more affordable than to California, but the drive from Michigan is also not unreasonable. Lodging is similarly less expensive than the 2018 event in San Diego (and while finding still cheaper



accommodations is possible, it's highly recommended to stay at the hosting hotel, where the action is!)

The BSI Board meeting chiefly entailed presenting some of the planning that has been arranged for the upcoming World Bromeliad Conference (details from the current BSI newsletter are shared below). Board members also discussed membership rates for the BSI; these have been under review for the past three board meetings, and finally, after exhaustive analysis by the Treasurer to determine the overall impact on the budget, the Board of Directors has approved the new rates.

One important ramification for our affiliate (SEM-BS) is permission to grant a free "Electronic Membership" to one of our members! We'll elect the lucky recipient at our November meeting, so if you wish to have a voice in that process, please attend!



# Events

## December Potluck

The next meeting will be our annual holiday potluck at the home of Lynne and Pat Echlin at 1 p.m. Saturday, December 7th. Please RSVP with the Echlins by phone or email, (248) 651 - 9521 or lechlin@sbcglobal.net

Bringing a dish to share is greatly appreciated, though not compulsory; inquire with Lynne if you're unsure what to bring.

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## Bromeliad Volunteers wanted!

For years SEMBS has comprised a small contingent of volunteers to help maintain the bromeliad collection at Matthaei, but we are striving to expand our presence there!

In the past scheduling has typically been rather spontaneous, and due to staff schedule constraints volunteer work days are generally limited to weekdays. If members express enough interest, it may be possible to develop a more organized participation schedule.

Most of the work involved is routine grooming of the plants, rotating stock between back greenhouse #1 and the Conservatory and arranging the displays. The upcoming meeting will offer a great opportunity for prospective volunteers to get a more hands on sense of what this entails.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact Paul Wingert--at an upcoming meeting, or by email at [pcwingert@gmail.com](mailto:pcwingert@gmail.com)



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