

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org

September, 2019



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE SEPTEMBER, 2019

Mike O'Leary presented a great program on his 25 favorite bromeliads, giving us insights on how people choose their "pets". He brought many examples from his garden which our members were excited for the opportunity to purchase from him.

Our nominating committee will soon begin asking members to consider serving as officers and directors for the next year.

Please give this some careful thought if you should be asked to serve. Thank you for all you do for our club.

Roots and other plant matter in our potted plants will typically clog up the drain holes in two-three years time — so be sure, during this mid-summer rainy season, to check your potted plants and drain off any standing water every few days.

Thank you for continuing to donate plants for our raffles.

See you at the meeting!

Steve

P.S. What do you call it when worms take over the world? Global Worming!



Next Meeting: September 16, 2019
PROGRAM: YOU, THE MEMBERSHIP

Members Show 'n' Tell. Bring a favorite plant to show off. An award will be given for the best plant as voted by the other members.



Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Minutes of Meeting August 19, 2019

President Steve Byram welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Guests in attendance were Cindy Halfmann and Dawn Rhoden, who were invited by Eileen Hart; and AJ and Al Seitz who visited our booth at the USF Plant Festival.

Raffle/Silent Auction: Tom Wolfe explained details about the bromeliads offered for the raffle. Members bought tickets and numbers were drawn at the end of the meeting for lucky members to add to their collection.

Program Presented by Mike O'Leary. "If you could only keep 25 bromeliads, what would you choose?" Long-time member and expert grower Mike O'Leary gave an interesting program and brought excellent plants from his collection. Some of the criteria he recommended: conditions, color, size, bloom, leaf (rough edges or smooth edges), sun or shade, type of bromeliads desired, shapes, name association, etc. Because most people are busy, it is helpful to concentrate on a limited number instead of too many plants in the garden. Mike said he gets more enjoyment from fewer specialized plants. My favorite expression Mike used in his program was "variety is the spice of life."

Break for Refreshments

Show and Tell: Robert Nelson - Tillandsia 'Tropiflora' and Tillandsia ionantha mounted on driftwood

Business Meeting Called to order by Steve Byram

Secretary's Report. Motion to accept the minutes as published in the newsletter made by Verna Dickey. Seconded by Pam Slagg.

Treasurer's Report by Rick Hunter. The report will be filed for audit.

Announcements: Steve reminded members about the 2019 Bromeliad Extravaganza in Orlando, Florida. The dates will be September 20-21. For details about registration and hotel, check www.BromeliadX.com. Tom Wolfe will take five plants donated from the club for the auction. Proceeds will go to help fund evil weevil research.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Rick Hunter. Seconded by Steve Byram

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Hunter

Snapshots of BGTB Meeting August 19, 2019



Our Speaker -
Mike O'Leary



Beautiful Samples from Mike's
Bromeliad Collection



After-Program Sales



Break for Refreshments



Tom Wolfe introducing our
Raffle/Silent Auction Plants



Pam Slagg - Happy with
her Raffle Winnings

BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA 2019

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies is asking each club to donate **five** plants for the rare plant auction at the Extravaganza. If you can donate a rare or semi-rare bromeliad, please let Tom Wolfe know (813-391-1542). Proceeds from the auction go to research to help eradicate the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil ("Evil Weevil"), among other important projects of interest to bromeliad enthusiasts. When we hosted the Extravaganza in 2015, other clubs around the state were very generous with their donations, so we should return the favor!

THE HEALTHFUL PINEAPPLE

We are all familiar with *Ananas comosus*—the pineapple—the only member of the bromeliad family that is commonly eaten and commercially grown as a food crop.

The pineapple is actually a multiple fruit. One pineapple consists of dozens of individual flowerets that have grown together. Each scale is the remains of a separate flower, and the more scales, the sweeter and juicier the pineapple should taste. Less well known are the many health benefits pineapples provide. We may eat it because of its lush, sweet taste but it may also be one of the more healthful foods available. It has a long history in folk medicine of being used for easing indigestion, arthritis, and sinusitis, and the juice has been used for its anthelmintic properties (to help get rid of intestinal worms and parasites!), and as a remedy for morning sickness.

The key to pineapple's healthy impact is bromelain, a mixture of proteolytic enzymes—which means that it helps us break down and digest proteins more efficiently. In fact, bromelain extracted from pineapples is a common ingredient in meat tenderizers. Bromelain has also been prescribed, especially in Europe, as an anti-inflammatory, to help reduce swelling, and even to relieve painful joints. Bromelain can help reduce mucous, which together with a high vitamin C content, also makes pineapple fruit and juice good choices for those suffering from colds. Bromelain has been prescribed in Europe for sinusitis and to help patients recover after sinus and throat operations, especially because pineapples present a low risk for allergic reactions. Bromelain has also been found to discourage blood clots, making pineapple a good choice for those long plane rides. Fresh pineapple juice is even said to discourage plaque buildup!

A cup of fresh pineapple provides about 75 percent of the recommended daily amount of manganese, a mineral that is critical to the development of strong bones and connective tissue, which is especially important to those of us concerned with osteoporosis.

We know pineapple is one of the easiest of bromeliads to cultivate in home gardens; we now also know a little more about why it's good for us as well.

From: Newsletter of the Hawai'i Bromeliad Society, Vol. 37 No. 1 January 2014



September Birthdays: Happy Birthday to Verna Dickey, Kay Miller, and Mark Victor



REFRESHMENTS FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING . . .

will be provided by Judith Pope Champagne, Linda Reynolds, Diane & Perry Searcy, and Nelson & Carole Priede



2019 Bromeliad Extravaganza, September 20-21, Marriott Spring-Hill Suites and TownePlace Suites, Orlando, FL

2019 USF Fall Plant Festival, Saturday and Sunday, October 12-13



Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Julie Lessard of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have. Call 813-600-9771 or email at taxxmaam@gmail.com

Officers for 2019

President: Steve Byram 813-361-4035 byramsteve@gmail.com

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Membership Chair - Jill Zakaroff

Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/562988247096958/>

Bromeliad Society International— www.bsi.org

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— www.fcbs.org

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— www.selby.org

Bromeliads Online - <http://www.bromeliads.co.nz/index.html>



Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. was organized in 1963. BGTB is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.

When: Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.
Plant sale at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Christ the King Catholic Church, McLoughlin Center Room C, 821 South Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa

Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments
Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
BROMELIAD GUILD OF
TAMPA BAY, INC. 21535
Northwood Dr. Lutz,
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