

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org

February, 2015



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IMPORTANT MEETING DATE CHANGE

**February meeting changed to February 23rd
(1 week late)**

We had a good group of folks turn out to assemble the State Fair Display. I think the end results represented our plant family in high fashion. We appreciate all those who donated their time, brought plants, and set up the display for the Club. Those present to help were: Kent Freman, Dave Johnston, Robert Nelson, Dave Mracek, Steve Byram, Marilyn Byram, Verna Dickey, Tom Wolfe, Beverly Sisco and H. T. Sisco. The fair is a great place to advertise our club and expose people to bromeliads. Many people visiting from other states have never seen or heard of bromeliads. If the weather is good, with lots of sunshine, the attendance at the fair can be more than a half million visitors.



Florida State Fair Display



Ken Stokes will be presenting a workshop at this month's meeting about bromeliad roots. Come and learn from Ken. Our speaker will be Alton Lee and we are honored to have him as our guest.

Our monthly meeting is one week later this month, so please mark your calendars for this month and beginning next month, we are back on our regular schedule of the 3rd Monday night.

Looking forward to seeing you all there and bring a guest to enjoy all the activities.

Tom Wolfe
President

BGTB MEETING
February 23, 2015
(Meeting is 1 week later than usual due
to a conflict with the Church's schedule)
Speaker: Alton Lee
"Bromeliad Royalty; the Vrieseas"

Alton Lee lives in Gulfport Florida on a lot filled with all kinds of tropical plants including a sizable collection of bromeliads. Alton is truly a plant lover. He is a writer by trade and has written many articles for the Journal of the Bromeliad Society International, Inc., in past years as well as for other publications. His articles have been published in the FCBS Newsletters as well as the BGTB newsletters.

He will be talking about Vrieseas and using live plants in his demonstration.

Alton has been collecting plants since he was a child in Pennsylvania but during a move to Florida in 1971 he discovered bromeliads. He joined the Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society in 1972 and a short time later he became President of the Society. He was also an active member of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay for many years and made the monthly trip to the meeting from Gulfport.

As always, our meetings are open to the Public and free of charge so invite your friends and neighbors to join us in the meeting.

Tom Wolfe, Program Chairman



Minutes, January 12, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President, Tom Wolfe

New Member, Linda Putnam, was welcomed.

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter made by Robert Nelson. Seconded by Steve Byram.

Treasurer's Report: Paula Benway reported we have a total of \$4226.06 in our checking account plus \$3005.27 CD for a total of \$7231.33. The report will be filed for audit.

Workshop on Variegation in Bromeliads presented by Ken Stokes

Old Business: Florida State Fair - need help sitting at display and/or setup and teardown. Volunteer sheet passed around.

Show and Tell: Plants were shown by Ken Stokes - *Portea alatisepala*, *Aechmea engleriana*, *Billbergia nutans* & *nutans minuta*, *Billbergia distachia*, *Aechmea farinosa*, and Dave Johnston - Hybridizing *Billbergia*

Refreshments

Program: Presented by Tom Wolfe "What The Bromeliad Society International Means to Us"

Respectfully submitted by Ray Hernandez, Secretary

Meeting Snapshots - January 12, 2015





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 813-662-7972 or email at taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com

Member News

Congratulations to Bill and Elissa Carr who celebrated their 62nd anniversary on January 15, 2015!



February Birthdays: Nancy Buckley, Tom Wolfe

We will have a drawing at the meeting for one of the lucky birthday people to take home a nice bromeliad as a Birthday gift from the club.

Club members celebrating their birthdays also provide the refreshments at our meeting each month. This way everyone helps once during the year. If you have a May or December birthday, please bring refreshments the following month, since we have the picnic and Christmas parties those months. Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.



Officers for 2014-2015

President: Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 BromeliadSociety@juno.com
Vice President: Eileen Hart 813-920-2987 eplants@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Paula Benway 813-985-3584 paulabenway@aol.com
Secretary: Ray Hernandez 813-832-3561 subtropicofcancer@hotmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Byram 813-949-0503 bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com

Directors:

Allen Langworthy 813-244-4707 alangwor@gmail.com
Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com
Robert Nelson 813-717-9224 CRBackfive@aol.com
Tom and Sabrina Pride 813-748-7315 tpride@hotmail.com

Committee Chairs:

Publicity: Bill Carr 813-752-8485 wcarr1@tampabay.rr.com
Sunshine/Membership: Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com
Telephone: Beverly Sisco 813-968-5726 btsgarden@msn.com
Raffle: Shirley Perez 813-920-5595 shirleyp2@yahoo.com
Program: Tom Wolfe 813-961-1475 BromeliadSociety@juno.com



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>

Any Changes?

If your mailing address, email address, or phone number changes, please inform Marilyn Byram at 21535 Northwood Drive, Lutz, 33549 or bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com



The Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc. was organized in 1963.



BGTB is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., National Council of Bromeliad Societies, 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, Mary Martha Center,
Room 201-202, 821 South Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa**

Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales,

**NEWSLETTER OF THE
BROMELIAD GUILD OF
TAMPA BAY, INC. 21535
Northwood Dr. Lutz,
Florida 33549**