

# Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



[www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)

April, 2018

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE APRIL 2018



A big thank you to Kenneth Stokes for his informative presentation on how to arrange and design Floral Decorations and Containers. We also want to express our gratitude to all of our members who volunteered for the USF Spring Plant Festival.

Our field trip to Marie Selby Gardens and Michael's Bromeliads will be Saturday, April 28. We will meet at Christ the King Church at 8:30 a.m. and leave at 9:00 a.m. sharp! The cost for Marie Selby is \$25.00 (unless you have a USF botanical Garden membership - in which case it is free). We will eat lunch at the restaurant at Marie Selby. Don't forget to bring boxes/bags for your purchases. Your board agreed to subsidize the cost of transportation, so your van charge will be \$10.00. Please be prepared to pay this non-refundable fee at the meeting on April 16. If you didn't sign up for the trip, but are interested in going, there is still room for a few more. You can still sign up at our next meeting.

The May 21 meeting is our annual picnic/auction fund-raiser. A sign-up sheet will be passed around for sides (veggies, salads, desserts, and drinks). The club will provide a barbecue meat entree. Also, please remember to bring show-worthy plants to donate for our auction. Thank you for the things you do for our great club.

See you at the meeting,  
Steve Byram, President

P.S. Remember . . . Old gardeners never die, they just SPADE AWAY!



**PROGRAM FOR APRIL 16 MEETING**  
**SPEAKER: MARK HEADLEY**  
**LAKELAND, FLORIDA**

Mark will present part of his collection from the Pitcairnioideae subfamily of Bromeliads. He will give an overview of culture and the differences within the subfamily. Although they do 'bite,' they are very easy to grow and are perfect for our area; one of the most underutilized plants that we can grow in Florida. Mark has lived (and gardened) in Central Florida all his life. I am a member of or have been a member of many garden clubs including The American Hemerocallis (Daylily) Society where he is a judge and served as president of local clubs and treasurer of the Regional Club, The Plant City Garden club, The Ridge Orchid Society, African Violet clubs, Rose clubs and recently joined the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay. Extensive Plant collections include Daylilies, Aloes, Agaves, Hoyas, other succulents and arid plants, orchids, Amaryllis and, of course Bromeliads.



**ART IN BLOOM**

BGTB member, Sherran Blair, recently entered a Tillandsia arrangement in the 21st annual "Art in Bloom" show at the St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts. There were about 40 arrangements complimenting works of art. The photo series in the background is by Lowell Nesbit - taken in 1969 during the first manned mission to the moon. Sherran used three different types of Tillandsias for her arrangement. Beautiful job, Sherran!

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING, MARCH 19, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Byram, president.  
Welcoming of visitors - Patricia Capitano, Chris Carver, and Josh.

**Secretary's Report.** Motion to accept the minutes as written in the newsletter made by Kenneth Stokes, seconded by Mike Foley.

**Treasurer's Report:** Given by Paula Benway. The report will be filed for audit.

**New Business:** The BGTB Board of Directors has planned a behind-the-scenes tour at Marie Selby Gardens on April 28. Other stops on the trip are Tropiflora in Sarasota or Michael Kiehl's Bromeliads in Venice. Steve Byram and Tom Wolfe explained details about the tour. Transportation options will be announced at the April meeting. Eileen Hart announced that Tropiflora will have an extravaganza on April 6,7,8.

There will be a USF Spring Plant Festival on April 14 and 15. The set up will be on April 13. Volunteers are needed to work and a sign-up sheet was sent around the room. It included dates and times for the event. Paula Benway has the tickets available for the workers for entrance to USF. Tom said workers were needed and he has attractive fliers made up about BGTB.

**Announcements:** Julie Lessard

1. March Birthdays - Bob Dickey had a special birthday this month. Other March birthdays were Paula Benway, Elisa Carr, Dottie Kellogg, Robert Nelson, Beverly Owen, Mark Headley
2. Member Nancy Buckley died and a celebration of life service will be held next month.

**Motion to conclude the business part of the meeting** made by Eileen Hart, seconded by Julie Lessard

**Door Prize Bromeliad** won by Dottie Kellogg

**Birthday Bromeliad** won by Dottie Kellogg

**Show and Tell:** Plants shown by Verna Dickey: Neo. Johannes; Eileen Hart: Aechmea Gamosepela Large Form, Aechmea Gamosepela Small Form "Lucky Strike", Billbergia Diane; Robert Nelson: Dykia estevegii

**Program** Kenneth Stokes gave an interesting program on Bromeliad Floral Decorations and Decorative Container and focused on "From the Garden Inside." Kenneth Stokes is a long-time member and expert on growing bromeliads. He shared a wealth of information on bromeliads and displayed ideas of how to use them in the home and garden.

Respectfully submitted by Marcia Hunter, Secretary.

**BGTB MEETING, MARCH 19, 2018**



**Aec capixabae by Ken Stokes**



**Meeting in Session**



**Steve Byram - President**



**Eileen Hart - Bill Diane**



**xCryptbergia 'Rubra'**



**Robert Nelson - Dyckia estevegii**



**Neo Johannis**



**Speaker, Kenneth Stokes**



**Speaker's Beautiful Display**



# THANK YOU NOTES TO BGTB



Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc.  
6616 Tusawilla Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748-9190

March 24, 2018

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay  
Attn: Paula Benway

Dear Paula,

On behalf of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, I would like to express our appreciation for the generosity of your society for the donation of \$750.00 to the Al Muzzell Memorial Weevil Fund.

FCBS is a 501c(3) non-profit organization staffed entirely by volunteers and every dollar raised through this project is spent on research to fight the Evil Weevil and/or on the conservation and preservation of Florida's native bromeliads.

Thank you very much for your support in the cause to save Florida's bromeliads.

Sincerely,  
Sudi Hipsley



Remember to bring plants for the raffle table! Take a look in your collection for spare pups, etc. Share the wealth with your fellow bromeliad lovers!

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### **REFRESHMENTS FOR APRIL'S MEETING . . .**



will be provided by Steve Byram, Judith Pope-Champagne, Robert Putnam, David Stamm, Mark Victor, Susan Weeks, Sandy Weaver, Carol Wolfe

Suggestions: chips & dip, veggies, salsa, crackers, cheese, chicken wings, popcorn, favorite recipes, pies, pizza, brownies, fudge, cookies, cakes, candies, deviled eggs, sandwiches and beverages.

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***April Birthdays:*** Mary Watkins

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.

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### **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](mailto:taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com)



**USF Botanical Garden Spring Plant Festival Apr 14 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Apr.15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Field Trip to Marie Selby Gardens, Sarasota and Michael's Bromeliads, Venice - April 28**

**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida**

**43rd Annual Mother's Day Show and Sale**

Friday, Saturday, and Mother's Day Sunday, **May 11–13**

Friday & Saturday: 10am–9pm

Sunday: Noon–6:00

Orlando [Fashion Square Mall 3201 E. Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32803](#)

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## **Officers for 2018**

**President:** Steve Byram 813-361-4035 [byramsteve@gmail.com](mailto:byramsteve@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 [Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com)

**Treasurer:** Paula Benway 813-985-3584 [rebenway@aol.com](mailto:rebenway@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Marcia Hunter 813-657-2305 [rg.hunter@verizon.net](mailto:rg.hunter@verizon.net)

**Newsletter Editor:** Marilyn Byram 813-563-1532 [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)

### **Directors:**

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Tom Wolfe 813-391-1542 [BromeliadSociety@juno.com](mailto:BromeliadSociety@juno.com)

**Membership Com. Chair:** Kathie Gorman [ohiostar7591@hotmail.com](mailto:ohiostar7591@hotmail.com)

**Refreshment Committee Chair:** Selma Sappenfield [ssappenfield2@gmail.com](mailto:ssappenfield2@gmail.com)



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## **Bromeliads Online**

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay [www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)



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

Bromeliad Society International— [www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— [www.selby.org](http://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, Mary Martha Center, Room 201-202, 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,  
Florida 33549**