

# Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



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

June, 2015

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE JUNE 2015



Our Annual Picnic was a rousing success with plenty of delicious food as usual. Eileen Hart did a fantastic job organizing everything and everybody including table decorations. The auction was quite a success with \$1100 added to our coffers. Thank to all who donated plants and those who did the bidding!

This month we are blessed to have Ray Lemieux speaking on growing bromeliads from seed.

Dues are due. If you haven't renewed you are now past due. The dues are \$25.00 for a single membership and \$30.00 for a family membership.

Now is the time to make your plans to attend the 2015 Extravaganza to be held in Miami. It is sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and hosted by The Bromeliad Society of South Florida. There will be workshops, speakers, and tours.

**Here is the information:**

**When:** September 26, 2015

**Where:** Miami Airport Convention Center

711 Northwest 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Miami, FL 33126

**Rooms:** DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel

**TEL:** [+1-305-261-3800](tel:+13052613800); Use the Group code: "BRO" whether calling, faxing, or emailing reservations.

**Book online:** [doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/M/MIAMADT-BRO-20150923/index.jhtml](http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/M/MIAMADT-BRO-20150923/index.jhtml)

**or go to the Bromeliad Society of South Florida's website:** [http://www.bssf-miami.org/](http://www.bssf-miami.org)

The BGTB will be hosting the 2017 Extravaganza so you have the 2015 and 2016 and a chance to experience it before we become the host club.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Tom Wolfe  
President



**BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY**  
**PROGRAM FOR JUNE 15, 2015**  
**SPEAKER: RAY LEMIEUX**  
**TOPIC: GROWING BROMELIADS FROM SEEDS**

Ray Lemieux will tell us how to grow our favorite bromeliads from seeds.

Ray is over all terrestrial production at Tropiflora's bromeliads, orchids and succulent nursery in Sarasota, Florida. He is a hybridizer and an excellent grower. If you have any questions concerning seed production, be prepared to ask Ray.

Ray has held many positions in the Sarasota Bromeliad Society and is their current president. Come and enjoy this informative hands-on program.

Tom Wolfe  
Program Chair



### **Potting**

For ease of growing, displaying and handling, most bromeliads can be potted, as opposed to mounted on wood or other material. However, most gray leaved tillandsias will grow more easily if mounted. Bromeliads will grow in almost any medium that drains well, does not pack down, provides stability while the rooting system develops, and has a slightly acid to neutral pH. Potting mixes vary according to availability of materials and certain grower preferences. Some materials used either alone or in combination include perlite, coarse builders sand, tree fern fiber, small gravel, and red wood, pine, cypress, or fir bark. The potting mix must drain rapidly. Orchid bark is satisfactory, and bromeliads complement orchid collections. Cryptanthus and dyckias grow well in African violet soil without any additive. Dyckias also do well in cactus soil. African violet growers find cryptanthus good companion plants under fluorescent lights. Cactus fanciers grow dyckias and hechtias easily in their collections. A few good potting rules to follow are:

- . Plant just to the base of the leaves to prevent possible rotting. Don't pot a bromeliad too deeply.
- . Use the right size pot. Don't use a pot that is too large or which increases overwatering. Four, 5 and 6 inch pots are all used. A pot that is too small is preferable to one that is too large.
- . Don't allow the plant to rock back and forth, or wiggle. This damages the tender, developing roots. Stake the plant, if necessary, until the roots are well developed.
- . Use a fast-draining potting mix. Water should run right through the mix. Then empty the saucer.
- . Use a pot with drainage holes in the bottom or sides.

Excerpt from "Bromeliad Culture Brochure," Bromeliad Society International



# Picnic and Plant Auction - May 18, 2015



## Dues are Due!

It's time to renew your BGTB membership. Your membership expires at the end of next month. Please fill out the application/renewal form in this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting or mail it to our Membership Chair, **Julie Lessard, 807 Knight Street, Seffner, FL 33584.**



## 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)



Happy Birthday!



**May Birthdays:** Rusty Beazley, Shari Elfont, Robert Hart, Doug McDowell, Judy Pope-Champagne, Lisa Robinette, Randy Wojahn

**June Birthdays:** Phil Elting, Susan Fuentes, Eileen Hart, Allen Langworthy, Kathleen Ledbetter, Kenneth Stokes

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 2015

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

### Directors:

Allen Langworthy 813-244-4707 [alangwor@gmail.com](mailto:alangwor@gmail.com)  
Julie Lessard 813-662-7972 [Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:Taxxmaam@tampabay.rr.com)  
Robert Nelson 813-717-9224 [CRBackfive@aol.com](mailto:CRBackfive@aol.com)  
Tom and Sabrina Pride 813-748-7315 [tpride@hotmail.com](mailto:tpride@hotmail.com)  
Pamela Slagg 813-832-9481 [pamslagg@hotmail.com](mailto:pamslagg@hotmail.com)

### Committee Chairs:

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



## 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>

## 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](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)





# BROMELIAD GUILD OF TAMPA BAY

## Membership Application/Renewal

Memberships: May 1 to April 30 each Year

**Please Print**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Second Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Single Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Family Membership

**Make checks payable to BGTB  
Submit with application to:**

**Julie Lessard  
807 Knight St.  
Seffner, FL 33584**

How did you hear about BGTB?

\_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_ Facebook \_\_\_ BGTB Website \_\_\_ Plant Festival or Show

\_\_\_ Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc.**

**Established 1963**

**Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.**

**Plant sales at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

**Where: Christ the King Catholic Church, Mary Martha Center, Rooms 201-202**

**821 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Tampa**

**Informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments**

**BGTB is affiliated with 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.**

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



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