

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org

July, 2014



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A big **“thank you”** to Mike O’Leary for an interesting and informative presentation on the bromeliads that should be in every collection. Mike has been a very enthusiastic bromeliad grower for many years and has a great collection (as you can see from the bromeliads that he shared with us). We hope his enthusiasm and love of bromeliads was motivating to you!

Our plants are looking better now that they have in a long time. I attribute most of that to two consecutive mild winters. So, all of you should have at least one plant that you can bring to the meeting for Show & Tell and/or raffle.

Please make sure your pots are clean and properly labeled or hopefully we can help you with the labeling. We have many experienced growers that can help identify your bromeliads if you do not have labels.

Our thanks to the many members that help with the clean up after the meeting. We always want to respect our landlord’s facilities by leaving it clean. Lots of helping hands make the work go faster and we can all get home quicker.



Let's continue celebrating our 50th BGTB anniversary with our special speakers this month, Drs. John and Kathy Utlely. This will be our first time to have them as guest speakers and we are very privileged to have them speak to us. This is a rare opportunity for our members to enjoy these special speakers. They were recently speakers at the National Begonia Conference. Please invite your begonia friends and inviting other interested bromeliad growers to the meeting. Visitors are always welcome!

You're one of the best Bromeliads Club in the US so keep up the good work.

Tom Wolfe
President

BGTB MEETING: Monday, July 21, 2014, 7:30 PM

SPEAKERS THIS MONTH WITH A JOINT PRESENTATION:

Dr. John Utlely and Dr. Kathleen Burt-Utlely

THE PROGRAM: "Mexican/Mesoamerican Bromeliads and their Habitats."

Kathy is from Princeton, NJ. She received her undergraduate degree from Seton Hill College and her graduate degrees from Oberlin College and Duke University. She is an Emeritus Professor at the University of New Orleans and has a research appointment in the "Institute for Systematic Botany" at the University of South Florida.

John is from Saint Petersburg, FL. He received his undergraduate degree and a graduate degree from USF and another graduate degree from Duke University. He is an Emeritus Professor at the University of New Orleans and has a research appointment in the "Institute for Systematic Botany" at the University of South Florida.

Both Kathy and John have done extensive field work in Mexico and Central America.

Tom Wolfe
Program Chairman



DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!

The Bromeliad Guild is planning a day trip to Central Florida in the fall when the weather cools a bit - on a Saturday in late October or early November. We will travel by bus to three destinations: the beautiful Harry P. Leu Gardens and world-class nurseries, Russell's Bromeliads and Color Zone Tropicals. These are all places that you will thoroughly enjoy visiting! (See descriptions below.) We will leave Tampa at 8:00 a.m. and return at 5:00 p.m. We will eat a picnic lunch at Leu Gardens and also have a chance to buy plants at the two nurseries. Admission to Leu Gardens is \$10.00. Bus fare will be determined by the number of people going (estimate is \$20.00 to \$30.00). We need to get an estimate of how many are interested in going at our next meeting on July 21 so we can calculate the exact cost per person and set a date. If you will miss the next meeting but are interested in the trip, please email Steve and Marilyn Byram at bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com or leave a message at 813-949-0503.



Harry P. Leu Gardens

The Harry P. Leu Gardens are semi-tropical and tropical gardens in Orlando, Florida, USA. The gardens contain nearly 50 acres of landscaped grounds and lakes, with meandering trails shaded by 200 year-old oaks and forests of camellias.

Leu Gardens demonstrates plant materials suitable for cultivation in USDA Zone 9b. The climate of Central Florida permits Leu Gardens to grow and enjoy a wide array of temperate and tropical plants.





Russells Bromeliads

Russell's Bromeliads is a wholesale grower, importer, exporter, and distributor of Tillandsias. This 30-year-old Central Florida business has built its reputation on offering the highest quality tillandsias. They grow many of the tillandsias from reproductive off-sets and also by seed germination.



Color Zone Tropicals

Owner Grant Groves took a fancy to growing bromeliads at an early age while still in elementary school. He joined the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida (BSCF) when he was in high school and was for many years the youngest member. At that time he also began his first hybridizing. He worked at Bamboo Nurseries, which was famous for its patented philodendron hybrids, but also grew bromeliads. Later, Grant managed Bert Foster's nursery, Tropical Arts, for 21 years. He started Color Zone Tropicals, Inc. in 1996 after the close of Tropical Arts. Color Zone Tropicals is widely known for their colorful Neoregelia Hybrids, many of which are grown commercially worldwide, and top quality Guzmania hybrids grown for the interiorscape trade.



Minutes, June 16 2014

The meeting was called to order by President, Tom Wolfe

Visitor: Tess

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

Treasurer's Report: Paula Benway reported we have a total of \$4780.26 in our checking account plus \$3005.27 CD for a total of \$7785.53. The report will be filed for audit.

Old Business: The spring field trip will take place in the fall. Possible stops are Leu Gardens and two bromeliad nurseries in the Orlando area.

Birthday Plant won by Kathleen Ledbetter

Door Prize Plant won by Bob Scheible

Show and Tell: Plants were shown by Ken Stokes - Aechmea Calichroma, Aechmea Tayoensis, Tillandsia Streptophylla, Quesnelia Marmorata "Tim Plowman", Variegated Ananas; Tom Wolfe - Quesnelia Marmorata, Tillandsia Asmambrosa, Aechmea x Canistrum Bigeneric, Neo "Red Dot", Neo "Small Fry"; Eileen Hart - Tillandsia Flabellata, Tillandsia Streptophylla

Refreshments and Raffle

Program presented by Mike O'Leary. Program title: "Twenty-five Must Have Bromeliads for your Garden"

Respectfully submitted by Ray Hernandez, Jr., Secretary

Meeting Snapshots - June 16, 2014



MEMBERS ATTENTION:

Please make sure your pots and plants are clean with no dirt on the outside of pots and label with nametags.

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



July Birthdays: Heather Carr, Ray Hernandez, Dave Johnston, John Miller, H.T. Sisco

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

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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, door prizes, raffle & refreshments
Visitors welcome!

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