

# Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Newsletter



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

August, 2019



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AUGUST, 2019

**NEW MEETING ROOM!** Please note: The church has set the calendar for meetings through June of 2020. We will now be meeting in The McLoughlin Center, Room C. The new room is located across the parking lot from our previous location, directly behind the main church building. It is easy to locate and it is on the first floor! Look for the Bromeliad Meeting signs.

## BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA 2019

Now is the time to start saving your dollars for the Bromeliad Extravaganza right around the corner! It's in Orlando (near Disney Springs) on September 20-21. There will be a Friday night dinner with conference attendees getting the first stab at plant sales that evening. Saturday will have four speakers, another buffet, and a rare plant auction. Call Spring Hill Suites (407-635-8500) or Towne Place Suites (407-239-4005) and ask for the \$85.00 Extravaganza hotel rate which includes a complimentary hot breakfast. The deadline for this special room rate is August 17. See all the details at [BromeliadX.com](http://BromeliadX.com).

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!



Thanks to Kenneth Stokes for his great job of explaining bromeliad defects, causes and cures. Good job, Kenneth! Also, thank you club members for your show and tell participation about plants that are special to you for one reason or another.

As usual, this month has started off with an abundance of rain. If you grow plants in pots outside, you may want to dump the water out of them after a couple of days of heavy rains to give them a chance to dry out a little and prevent crown rot or other fungus problems.

If possible, please stick around after the meeting to help clean up. With a few of us pitching in, it should only take about 5-10 minutes. Thanks to Verna and Bob Dickey for leading the way in this regard.

Please remember to bring a nice clean plant for the silent auction at our next meeting.

See you at the meeting!

Steve

P.S. What does the letter “A” have in common with an inflorescence? They both have bees coming after them — So “bee” ware!



**Next Meeting: August 19, 2019**  
**SPEAKER: Mike O'Leary**  
**“If you could only keep 25 bromeliads, what would you choose?””**

Mike and his wife, Linda, live in Clearwater. Mike has served the Club in about every position from Director to President. He was Treasurer of the 1992 World Bromeliad Conference which BGTB hosted at Saddlebrook Resort. Before becoming a busy mom, (four children) Linda also worked many years serving the BGTB. Mike and Linda are a large part of the BGTB's history.

Mike is a superb grower and excellent speaker so you don't want to miss his interesting presentation. He will also bring sale plants from his very diverse collection.

# Outline from Last Month's Program

Bromeliad Defects, the Causes and Cures

By Kenneth Stokes

## Environmental:

Natural overcrowding, resulting in distorted form.

Insufficient light, resulting in elongated leaves.

Too much light, resulting in bleaching and burning

Natural projectiles, resulting in leaf holes

Crown rot, resulting in eventual death of plant

## Detrimental Horticultural Practices:

Constantly moving of plants, resulting in leaf burns

Excessive fertilizing, creating huge plants or long leaves

## Weather: Hail and Dry lightning, causing leaf damage

Excessive moisture, causing rot

Insufficient moisture, causing dehydration

Cold damage, causing leaf damage

## Insects: Grasshoppers, causing chewed leaves

Scale, resulting in sick and dying plants

Weevils, resulting in dead plants

## Animals: Squirrels and Racoons, causing chewed leaves

Growth irregularities: Quilling, causing a sick and dying plant

## **Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay Minutes of Meeting July 15, 2019**

President Steve Byram welcomed members and guests to the meeting.

**Program** Long-time member and expert grower Kenneth Stokes shared information about problems that can develop with bromeliads. He discussed many facts including natural projectiles, weather effects, insect damage, fertilizer tips, and growing conditions. He covered a broad range of material.

### **Break for Refreshments**

**Show and Tell:** Robert Nelson - Cryptanthus Rubin Star, Tillandsia funckiana, Tillandsia caput medusae; Mike O'Leary - Neoregelia Hot Embers, Head Turner, Hondillo Don; Tom Wolfe - Canistrum fosteranum, Aechmea pubescens, Aechmea miniata discolor

**Business Meeting Called to order** by Steve Byram

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

**Announcements:** September 20-21. Bromeliad Extravaganza in Orlando. A brochure was passed out to members. It included registration, schedules for the event, and hotel information.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Livia Popovich. Seconded by Rick Hunter

Respectfully submitted,  
Marcia Hunter



**August Birthdays:** Happy Birthday to Steve Byram, Mike Foley, Randy Garcia, June Hill, Marian Kennell, Robert Putam, Maria Warner, and Carol Wolfe

## Snapshots of BGTB Meeting July 15, 2019



Garden Rocks painted by  
Jill Zakaroff



Pre-meeting plant  
conversations



Robert Nelson  
*Tillandsia caput medusae*



Robert Nelson  
*Tillandsia funkiana*



Tom Wolfe  
*Aechmea miniata* var.  
*discolor*



Tom Wolfe  
*Aechmea pubesens*



Mike O'Leary  
*Neoregelia Hot Embers*



Our Speaker -  
Kenneth Stokes



Refreshment Time



## **REFRESHMENTS FOR THE JULY MEETING . . .**

will be provided by Steve Byram, Mike Foley, Darlene Hannan, and Maria Warner



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



## **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](mailto:taxxmaam@gmail.com)

## **Officers for 2019**

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

**Vice President:** Julie Lessard 813-600-9771 [taxxmaam@gmail.com](mailto:taxxmaam@gmail.com)

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

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

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

**Publicity Chair** - Julie Lessard 813-600-9771 [taxxmaam@gmail.com](mailto:taxxmaam@gmail.com)

**Membership Chair** - Jill Zakaroff



## **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, 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,  
Florida 33549**