

orlandiana

Newsletter of the
Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
Volume no. 50, Issue no. 4

Next meeting: April 19, 2023

Where: Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

6:30 –7:00 is time for displaying and purchasing plants

Program officially begins at 7:00 pm

CONTENTS

President's Message	2
March Minutes	3
List of Upcoming Events	5
Plant Sale Rules	8
Plant of the Month	11
Guest Speaker	11
Marilyn's Garden	12
Pictures	14
Membership form.	16
Officers	17

Visit the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Website at:
www.bromeliadorslando.com

You will find an activities page that lists our speakers for upcoming meetings, downloadable copies of newsletters, plant photos, a map to Leu Gardens, and more! This is a great place for the public to find out about our Society or send us a message. Check it out!

President's Message

This year we are holding BSCF's 48th annual show and sale. Sounds grand, doesn't it? Has there really been 47 prior ones? We've only been in existence 50 years. There sure weren't judged shows annually back in the '70s. To get the count that high, I think it has to include a lot of years when BSCF put together public displays with no judging. In fact, it must include the years when BSCF did not have an event of its own, but did participate in the big orchid show held at the old Winter Park Mall (where Winter Park Village is now located). We had a 10-ft square area for a display of broms not for sale, and an adjoining 10-ft square area for selling members' broms. We were the only non-orchid participants some years. We got involved because some BSCF members also grew orchids and the orchid society was happy to get our money.

Most of the orchid folks were glad to have us. A few, however, did not think we belonged. I recall one 'lady' who snarled about 'those spiny things' taking up space. When I pointed out that *Vrieseas* had no spines, would thrive with the same care she gave her orchids and would add red to her color palette, she just muttered something about there being orchids with red flowers and strutted away. I didn't see any red orchids, just a purple-maroon sort of hue. In the years since, I've seen red-flowered orchids, but rarely as brilliant as the reds produced by broms.

A lot of those orchid folks ogled our display of red-centered *Neoregelia* 'Meyendorffii', the red and blue spikes of *Aechmea fulgens*, the silver-banded foliage of *Aechmea chantinii* and so many other brightly colored exotic broms. Having colorful foliage made the broms stand out. Not many orchids look like much of anything when not in bloom. (Sort of like my Tillandsias.) The public came to see all the grand orchids in dozens of displays and dozens of sales booths, but they also picked up one of those novel broms. There were a whole lot of people who had never seen a bromeliad until they came to the orchid show. We were spreading the word about broms.

Nowadays, people have seen bromeliads. There are tons of them in airports, hotel lobbies and such places. It's mostly the big, long-lasting *Guzmania* hybrids that did not even exist back in the '70s and early '80s. People also have seen a few broms at Lowe's and Home Depot. Still, a lot of people do not know what they are or how to grow them. That is why we hold the Mother's Day weekend exhibition at Fashion Square. We are able to reach out to the broader public. The mall does not get crowds anymore, but there are shoppers and a bunch of folks on their way to the movie theatre. They really do check

out the broms on display. Folks get as entranced as ever. And, they acquire a lot of broms. In fact, the displays are bigger than what we did at the orchid show over 40 years ago and the number of plants sold is many multiples of what was sold back then. It would be great if we could have it at a mall that drew lots of shoppers. Maybe next year. We take what we can get.

The mission is to promote bromeliads, educate the public... hook new brom-addicts. Like in the old days, the 2023 show will not have judges or awards. It will have a lot of broms. Maybe there will be a really big one on display, like a blooming *Alcantarea* or *Androlepis*. That would get attention! Whatever participants bring, there will be broms that amaze. And, somebody will point to a *Dyckia* and say, "I didn't know cactus were bromeliads." Another will ask why the air plant kept in their kitchen window died. "I made sure never to water it and the A-C blows right at it, so I know it got plenty of air." There is a lot of teaching to do.

Our members will teach. Folks will pick up handouts and acquire a new brom or three. That's the mission, you know.

I wonder if that snarly orchid lady ever got a *Vriesea*?bet she ended up with a bunch if she did.

Mike McMahon

March Minutes

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2023

Program: Vice President Tim Dreggors introduced speaker (and BSCF member) Marty Folk, who presented inspiring photos of bromeliads in landscapes and at botanical gardens. Marty also sold some of his wonderful plants.

The Business Meeting was called to order by President Mike McMahon at 7:50 pm. He thanked Marty, mentioned our plant of the month, *Neoregelia johannis*, and announced that the Silent Auction was closed.

New Members and Guests: Recording Secretary Katherine Vaccaro invited us to welcome guests Jennifer Powell and Erica Smith. We also recognized five new members: Sue Fischer, Destini & Paul Coiner, Jacque Demant and Jeffrey Jackson.

Minutes: The minutes of the February, 2023 meeting were published in the Newsletter. A motion was made by Joe Ventura and seconded by Tim Dreggors that they be approved. The motion passed.

Treasurer's report: Joyce Gibault said she would have a full report on our recent income and expenditures at the next meeting.

Audit Committee and Plant Sale reports: Mike Saunders said the audit is almost complete and found no irregularities. A few recommendations will be made. The Leu Gardens Plant sale went well, with good sales. He offered special thanks to Bonnie Friedrich for help with pulling tags.

Special Events report: Karen Steinberg reported that the first garden tour was well attended and enjoyed by all. The next event is 10am - 3pm April 22nd. Houses on the tour include Joyce Gibault and Karen Steinberg in Orlando and Miguel Nicolas, who specializes in large form plants like *alcantareas*. It will be worth the drive to Tangerine (near the Orange/Lake Co. line) to see them.

Extravaganza Report: Greg Kolojeski reminded everyone that it's time to register for the Bromeliad Extravaganza, to be held July 28-29 in West Palm Beach. Registration information is in the newsletter. The Plant sale will be special. It is open to the public on Saturday, but registrants get first pick at a special Friday evening preview sale.

President's Report:

The standardization of the Bylaws is moving forward. A version with comments incorporated will be sent to everyone for review. We're still hoping to finalize them by May or June.

Leu Gardens has renewed our yearly contract for one year at \$1500, which is a great bargain.

Planning is beginning for the Mother's Day Exhibit and Sale, to be held Friday - Sunday May 12 - 14 at Fashion Square. Last year's exhibit was very educational for the public, with over 900 information sheets about genera handed out. All members are encouraged to display plants, which do not need to be "show" quality, just clean and interesting. They need to be

brought to the mall on Thursday evening during set-up and must remain until Sunday afternoon when the event ends.

There was no **Old or New Business**.

Show & Tell continues to draw fascinating specimens.

Door Prize/Raffle giveaways rounded out the evening.

Respectfully submitted,

Katherine Vaccaro, Recording Secretary

Upcoming Events

Mother's Day Event: May 11-14

The educational displays planned for the 2023 Mother's Day Weekend Show & Sale will be like those set up in 2022. There will be 9 draped tables. One table will have general information about BSCF, membership applications and the like. Each of the other 8 tables will be devoted to displaying plants in different genera, with handouts about each genus. The categories will be:

Aechmea

Billbergia

Dyckia/Hechtia

Guzmania

Neoregelia

Tillandsia

Vriesea

Other Genera (Ananas, Androlepis,

Araeococcus, Canistrum, Cryptanthus,

Hohenbergia, Nidularium, Orthophytum, Pitcairnia, Portea, Puya, Quesnelia, Sincoraea,

xCanmea, xNeophytum, xSincoregelia)



If you are bringing a plant in a different genus than any of those listed, inform Mike McMahon so an informational handout can be prepared. Please refer to the section below for the Plant Sale Rules.

All members are encouraged to put one or more plants on display. It should be a brom in display-worthy condition, cleaned-up and free of any pests. Each plant must have a correct name label. Pots should be cleaned-up, but need not be pristine. It is OK if the pot is mossy. Please bring display plants to the mall after 4:00 PM on Thursday, May 11. That gives time for plant name placards to be made and placed with each plant. If really necessary, display plants can be brought at 10:00 AM on Friday, May 12. Display plants are to be removed on Sunday, May 14 at 6:00 PM, but with advance permission may be removed beginning at 4:00 PM on Sunday or earlier in truly special circumstances. (Check with Mike McMahon.)



2023 BROMELIAD EXTRAVAGANZA, July 28-29

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, in partnership with the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches, presents its largest event of the year. Don't delay. Register today. This event sells out!

World Renowned Guest Speakers

Chester Skotak, Costa Rica

David Shiigi, Hawaii

Eloise Beach, Apopka

*Chester's final appearance, don't miss this historical event

Registration

\$150 register by April 30

\$175 register on or after May 1

- Friday Night BBQ
- Early Access to Plant Sale
- Afternoon Lectures
- Saturday Night Banquet
- Rare Plant Auction
- Silent Auction

Optional: \$25 Sunday garden tour and brunch

www.marriott.com

[561-833-1234](tel:561-833-1234)

Rooms are \$139 until June 30th

Parking is \$8 per day

Register online or download and print the registration form at:

www.fcbsextravaganza.org

Saturday Agenda

- Bromeliad sale 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
- Dutch treat boxed lunch available
- Lectures
 - David Shiigi 1:00 to 1:45 pm
 - Eloise Beach 2:00 to 2:45 pm
 - Chester Skotak 3:00 to 3:45 pm
- Reception 6:00 pm cash bar
- Banquet dinner 7:00 pm
- Raffle 50/50
- FCBS Rare Plant and Silent Auction

Schedule at a Glance

Friday

Registration opens at 3:00 pm

Welcome reception and BBQ 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Registrants only plant sale 7:30 to 9:30 pm

Saturday

Plant sale 9:00 am to 4:00 pm (Open to the public)

Lectures 1:00 pm to 3:45 p.m.

Reception 6:00 pm

Banquet 7:00 pm

*Registrant guest \$75 for banquet dinner

Sunday: Optional Garden Tour

9:00am Garden tour and brunch \$25.00

Hosted by Joe Libertucci

*Travel on your own, about 20-minutes from the hotel

West Palm Beach Marriott

1001 Okeechobee Blvd

West Palm Beach, FL 33401



BSCF Garden Tours

BSCF April Garden Tours!

Looks like the weather will be nice and everyone's garden is getting into full swing! Visit some member gardens and get inspired for spring!

Start at whichever garden you like and move on to another when you are ready. Here are the specifics on the April Tours:

Date: April 22, 2023

Time: Times vary per garden location:

9:30–12:30 for Joyce, Karen, and Steve (all near downtown Orlando)

9:30–2:30 for Miguel (Miguel's home is near Mt. Dora, so it is a good starting or ending point!)

Joyce Gibault

3814 Finch St, Orlando, FL 32803 (Audubon Park, very close to Leu Gardens)
Beautiful bromeliads all used in pots within the landscape.

Karen Steinberg

517 Mayfair Circle, Orlando, FL 32803 (Lake Como/Colonial Town area)
Bromeliads and other tropical plants used in the landscape

Steve Beaudoin

2817 Clemwood Street, Orlando, FL 32803 (Lake Como/Colonial Town area)
Many different kinds of bromeliads in the garden along with other tropical plants. Steve will also have plants available for sale.

Miguel Nicolas

7643 Lake Angelina Drive, Mt. Dora, FL 32757 (Tangerine)
Large Alcantarea (3 will be blooming!) and many other bromeliads.

Field Trip Coordinator:

Karen Steinberg

407-579-6445

steinberg.km@gmail.com

PLANT SALE RULES:

2023 Mother's Day Weekend Exhibition & Sale

If you are interested in participating in the sale and have not already informed Mike McMahon, please do so as soon as possible.

1. Membership Required: To sell plants, a person must be a member in good standing of BSCF as of the sale.

2. Display Plants Requirement: All Sellers must place at least FIVE entries in the Exhibition display. You are encouraged to display more. Plants being exhibited may be sold, but cannot be removed from the Exhibition display before 3pm on Sunday. However, this rule will be waived if the plant can be removed without the display for that genus becoming too 'impoverished'. That judgment call will be made by the BSCF President. **Suggestion- Use the display for mature specimens of plants you will be selling as small plants or pups. A big pot with multiple Billbergias will make single plants much more salable. Since the display plants can be sold, consider placing more than 5 on display.**

3. Work Requirement: All Sellers must work in the sales booth during sale hours, as follows: Sellers who have 50 or fewer sale plants, a minimum of 4 hours. Those who have over 50 sale plants, a minimum of 8 hours. (These are hours during the course of the event, not per day. Someone can substitute by mutual agreement upon informing the Chair.)

4. Dates & Times:

Set-up is on Thursday, May 11 (officially beginning at 6pm, but you may show up at 4pm and we can get done sooner).

Sales hours: Friday, May 12 (11am to 8pm); Saturday, May 13 (11am to 8pm); Sunday, May 14 (Noon to 6pm). Re-stocking is from 10am to 11am each morning.

Breakdown: Sunday, 6pm to 9pm.

5. Condition of Plants: Only bromeliads owned by members (or BSCF) may be sold. Plants must be clean and in good condition, free from insects or disease. Potted plants should be well rooted, and pots should be clean. You may also sell pups, mounted or bare

root plants. Be certain labels are secure. Bare roots with soil attached should be bagged for neatness or otherwise arranged so as not to leave debris on tables or floor. Empty pots or trays may be used to display bare root plants. Questionable plants will be removed from the sale by the Chair.

6. Dry Goods: Non-plant bromeliad-related dry goods (books, mounting materials, pots, etc.) may be sold if approved in advance, subject to availability of suitable space. All rules and procedures for the sale and pricing of plants apply to dry goods.

7. Pricing: Plants must be priced in EVEN DOLLARS. The minimum price shall be \$1.00. Please price and label your plants before bringing them to the sale. All plants must be CLEARLY marked with two labels: (a) one label with PRICE and Member ID number on

SAME side of label; and (b) one label with correct plant name (stays with plant). Sellers are strongly urged to affix a small self-adhesive PRICE sticker to a prominent place on a leaf. Experience has shown that plants sell faster when the price is easily seen. If you do not know your Member ID number, ask and the Chair will inform you, or contact the Membership Secretary, Marilyn Howser: marilynhowser@gmail.com (For permission to use your initials rather than your ID number, contact Mike McMahon.)

8. Sales Proceeds: 20% of your gross sales will be retained by BSCF. Florida sales tax will be collected from the customers. Participants' share of sale proceeds will be paid to them after the sale books are closed, generally within two weeks.

9. Tables/Display Racks: Please bring tables for use in the sales booth. This year the Mall is supplying only enough tables for the Exhibition. We need all the tables that can be brought. Table space will be apportioned among Sellers without regard to who brought which table. Because we depend on the tables brought by those selling, it is important for participants to arrive with their tables as early as feasible on Thursday for set-up. If a participant does not have tables, contact the Chair so arrangements can be made to assure sufficient display area for all. You may bring a display rack for hanging plants. A location for it will be designated during set-up.

10. Large Plants: If you will be selling large plants (mature Alcantareas, Androlepis, etc.) that are best displayed on the floor, please inform the Chair so an area can be set aside for the purpose. NOTE: Do not bring large bare root plants that will leave a mess. Per Mall requirements, no dirt or water is allowed on the floor.

11. **Promotion:** We will be promoting the sales event on Facebook like was done for the 2022 Mead Garden GROWvember event. There is an expectation that all participating Sellers will provide photos of plants that can be posted on Facebook.

12. **Break-Down:** Sunday, 6pm to 9pm. However, in the discretion of the Chair, participating sellers with long travel distances or extenuating circumstances may leave earlier subject to the removal of plants, tables and other materials not disrupting continuation of sales operations and the display. Plants not picked up by the close of show on Sunday will be considered a donation to BSCF. The Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, Inc. and The Orlando Fashion Square Mall do not assume any responsibility for loss or damage to your plants.

Plant of the Month

Named for Dutch botanist Eric J. Gouda this beautiful Genus has only two species, *ospinae* and *chrysostachys* each species has two varieties. Native to the mountainous regions of Colombia where both species grow. The foliage is various shades of green, with brown and black reticulations. The inflorescence is yellow and well branched.



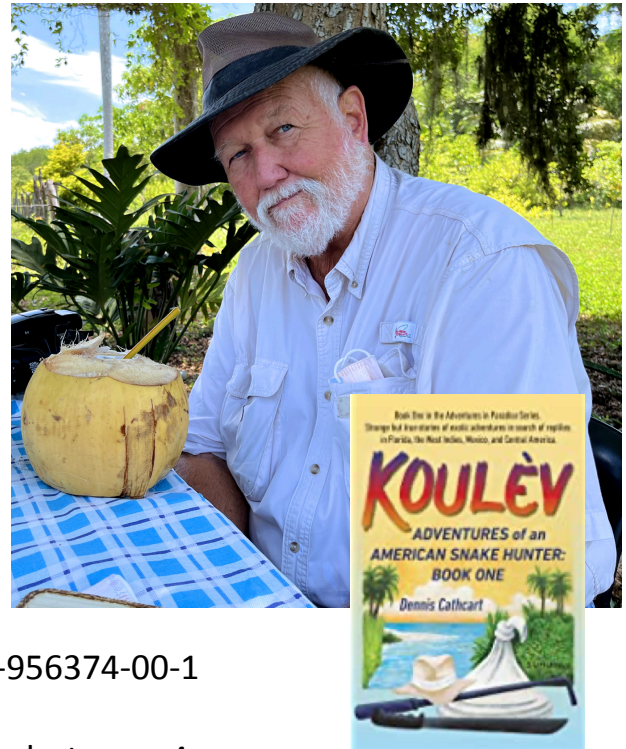
Guest Speaker

Dennis J Cathcart spent a lifetime exploring the jungles, mountains, and deserts of the world's tropics pursuing exotic plants. He established Tropiflora, LLC in 1976, a world-renowned plant nursery in the Bradenton-Sarasota area.

A recognized world authority on bromeliads, he lectures worldwide on their habitats, culture, and conservation. His plant discoveries are many, three bear his name, and his collections grace herbaria, botanical gardens, and private collections across the globe. Dennis Cathcart is also a pioneer in the history of reptile collecting, having lived the life during the 1960s and '70s when the hobby was relatively obscure.

Dennis will plan to bring plants to sell. He will also bring his book, *Koulèv: Adventures of an American Snake Hunter*, Book One. He will have copies to sell and will personalize them. If anyone wants to pre-order, they can contact Dennis at dennis@tropiflora.com. There are three versions:

- Professional Edition: Paperback, 472 pages, color photos, tables, index, glossary. \$34.99 ISBN 978-1-956374-01-8
- Paperback Black and White Edition: 442 pages, glossary. \$17.99 ISBN 978-1-956374-03-2
- Hardcover Collector Edition: 472 pages, color photos, tables, index, glossary. \$47.99 ISBN 978-1-956374-00-1



His program will be part 2 of the presentation from last year, *A Naturalist Visits Cuba*.

Marilyn's Garden



What do all *Aechmea nudicaulis* bromeliads have in common? A thumb print! At the base of each leaf is a "thumb print" no matter what variety it is.

Pictured are a few of the *nudicaulis* I have growing in my yard.

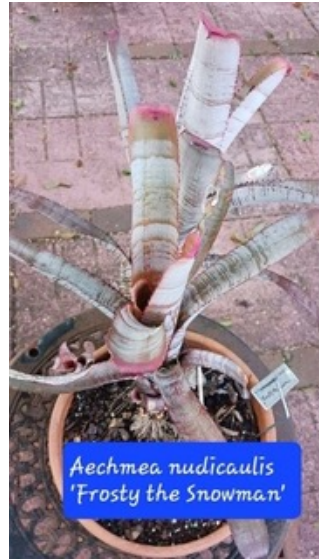


Thumb



Capitalization and Punctuation

By Marilyn Howser



Have you ever wondered when to use a capital letter or a single quotation mark when writing out your bromeliad tags?

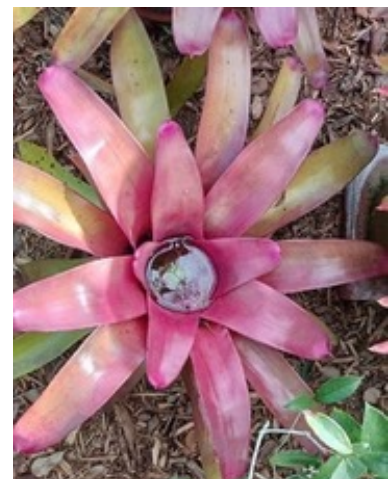
The genus is capitalized. Examples of genera are *Aechmea*, *Billbergia*, *Cryptanthus*, *Dyckia* etc. The plural form of genus is genera.

The species is not capitalized. An example of a species is *nudicaulis*. A species grows naturally. It is not a cultivar. It is not a hybrid. (I'm not sure what the difference between cultivar and hybrid is but the FCBS doesn't seem to differentiate.)

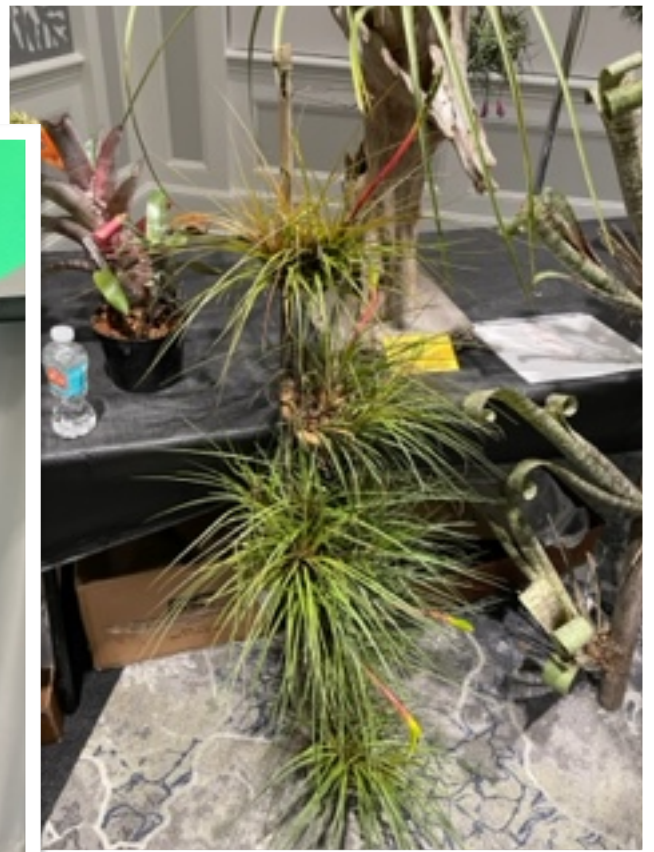
The hybrid has a single quotation mark and a capital letter. Examples are 'Frosty the Snowman', 'Paratl', 'Flavomarginata' etc. *Flavomarginata* also means yellow margin.

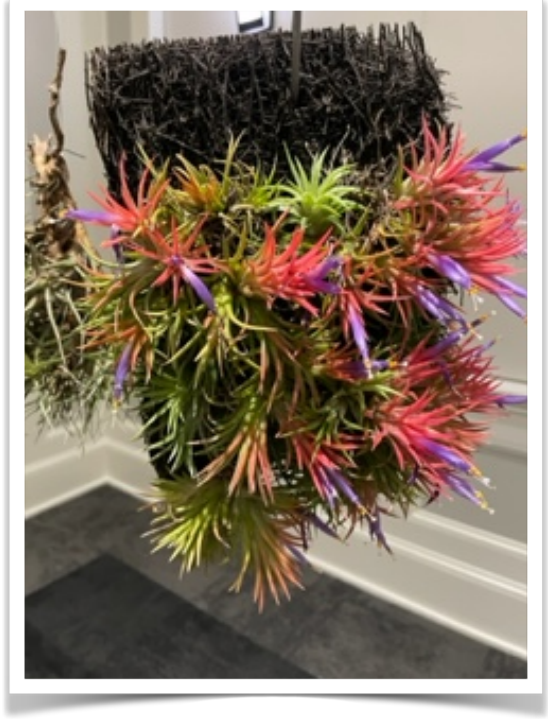
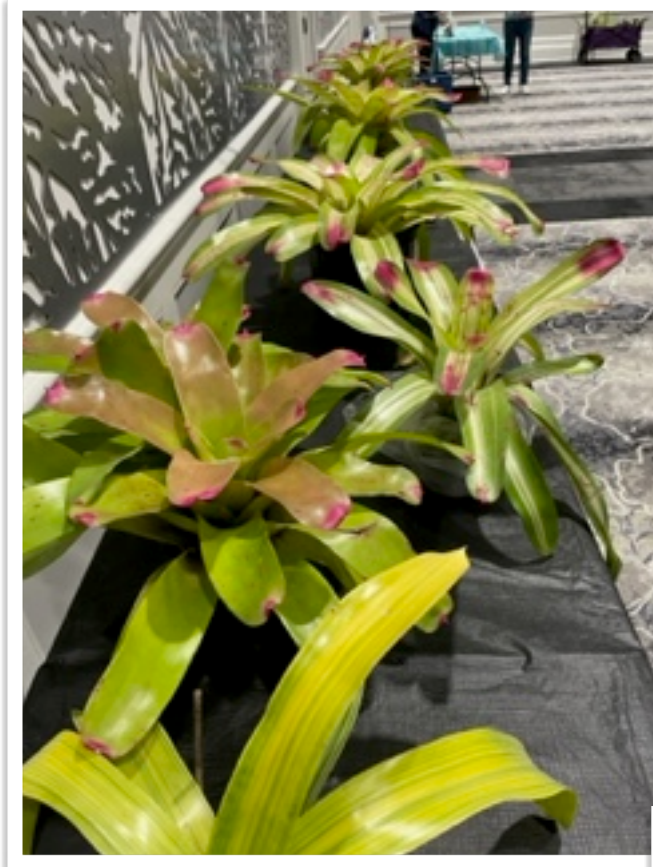
When in doubt check fcbs.org/photo index. It will give you the name of every registered genera, species and cultivar.

P.S. It is time to keep a very close eye on your broms due to the sun becoming more direct now that summer is on its way. One thing to watch for is colors fading as in this picture. *Neoregelia* 'Red Apple' with bleaching from too much sun.



Pictures





2023 Bromeliad Society of Central Florida MEMBERSHIP FORM



_____ NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip +4 _____

Phone/Email _____

\$15 for one member, plus \$5 for each additional family member at the same address.

Name Tags are optional. The price for a name tag is \$7 per member.

If so desired please insert number ordered _____ \$ _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ Make checks payable to BSCF

Either **bring payment to the next meeting.** OR If mailing please send to:

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, PO Box 568872 Orlando, FL 32856-8872.

Meetings are held at Leu Gardens, 1920 N Forest Ave, Orlando, FL 32803.

On the 3rd Wednesday of every month, from 6:30-9:00 pm. Buy plants from the speaker between 6:30-7pm. The meeting starts promptly at 7:00. You'll enjoy informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes and raffles. Members also receive a monthly newsletter. Please come join us!

Treasurer:

Date _____ Check # _____ Cash \$ _____

Officers

President: Mike McMahon

Vice-President: Tim Dreggors

Treasurer: Joyce Gibault

Secretary: Katherine Vaccaro

Immediate Past President: Mike Saunders

Florida Council Reps: Mike Saunders & Mike McMahon

POSITIONS

Meeting Layout Coordinator: President.

Meeting Hospitality Coordinator: Kathy Hancock (Beverages); Peggy Bohl (Snacks) Helpers:

Welcome Table/Raffle Coordinator: Robin Norton Helpers: Tracy Kochmann, Katherine Vaccaro

Secret Bid Auction Coordinator: Phil Wright

Plant Of The Month Coordinator: John Boardman

Speaker Helper: John Boardman

Librarian : Telka diFate

Newsletter Editor: John Vecchitto Would be good to have a couple of people as 'reporters', supplying John with photos, news blurbs and articles.

Newsletter Proofreader: Marty Folk

Membership Secretary: Marilyn Howser

PLANT SALES -

Plant Sale Chair for Leu Gardens Spring Plant Sale: Mike Saunders.

Field Trip Organizer: Karen Steinberg

Webmaster: Greg Kolojeski

Permission to reprint is granted with acknowledgment. Please send all correspondence to the address below:

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, Inc.

PO Box 536961

Orlando, FL 32853-6961

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BSCF is a nonprofit Florida corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization.

Donations to this society are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.

BSCF is an affiliate of the Bromeliad Society International, Inc., and a member of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. and the Cryptanthus Society.