



BromeliAdvisory

June 2011

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What	Who
Sales Table	Antonio Arbelaez

JUNE 21 2001 @ 7 :30 PM

Speaker: Dr. Karl Green – Bromeliad Quiz for prizes (bromeliads) hosted by Dr. Karl Green.

RAFFLE TABLE: Paul Finlayson and Dr. Bob Grayson (don't miss this one)

FOOD TABLE: Barbara Sparling, Sara Donayre, Maureen Adelman, Bernice Reed, Pat Gatjens

Karl Green will be our speaker. Karl is an active member with exceptional growing skills and taxonomic proficiency in bromeliads. A retired medical doctor, Karl's endeavors in the bromeliad world have bursted from hobbyist to serious and learned grower whose rented shade house has thousands of species – accentuated with a large scale collection of pure foster plants. And, with a dry whimsical and often wry manner, Karl lends a laugh to our meetings and members.



Karl Green sports a *Tillandsia funkiana*

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Now we are on facebook with two pages for your pleasure.

President's Letter

None this month – Carl has been busy learning how to drive the new trolleys at Fairchild.

Garden Notes - May 2011

by Alan Herndon

Summer has not quite arrived according to the calendar, but in terms of plant growth, we are already there. Our local winds are still at spring levels, giving us some respite from the worst of the heat, but sooner or later, the winds will calm and our afternoon temperatures will again regularly reach the 90's. On the other hand, the unseasonably high winds are also suppressing our normal rain clouds, so we have remained dry later than usual.

The spring flowering flush in *Aechmea chantinii* has, if anything, increased in intensity over the past month. Now we have the smaller plants, including seedlings flowering for the first time, coming into bloom. Unfortunately, since these plants are small when coming into flower, the inflorescences are also small. I expect the inflorescences will be larger once pups are given a chance to grow, but I cannot afford to hold many of the plants for another year just to check this. In *Aechmea* subgenus *Ortgiesia*, there are still a few species blooming, but numbers are clearly ebbing. Various clones of *Aechmea nudicaulis* have continued blooming off and on this month also, the most notable being the clone that only received an official name recently in the Bromeliad Cultivar Registry as *Aechmea* 'Blackie'. There is some doubt about whether this clone is a true *nudicaulis* because it has very inconspicuous spines on the leaf margins and almost entirely lacks the 'thumbprint' found in other clones. Since the plant was originally obtained from the garden of Roberto Burle Marx, the possibility that it is hybrid in origin must be considered.

Alcantarea species are in bloom now. I had 3 species: *Alcantarea vinicolor*, *Alcantarea glaziouana* and *Alcantarea imperialis* produce inflorescences. Another *Alcantarea imperialis* planted in a nearby garden is also blooming. Karl Green also has 3 blooming plants: *Alcantarea nahoumii*, *Alcantarea glaziouana* (albomarginate form), *Alcantarea vinicolor* and a fourth species in bud from Elton Leme that may represent *Alcantarea mucilaginoso*. This

may seem like a clear sign of greater than normal bloom, but I am not convinced yet. There are several *Alcantarea* plants flowering at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden also (including *Alcantarea odorata*), but only a small proportion of their blooming size plants are actually in bloom. I would be interested to hear if other people have any flowering *Alcantarea*.

Species of *Billbergia* are continuing their spring blooming bonanza. For the most part, plants are blooming sporadically within groups, but a group of *Billbergia* 'Hallelujah' that were split apart and repotted in April are all blooming now. This near-simultaneous bloom in *Billbergia* 'Hallelujah' can be explained by the stimulus the plants received on being put in fresh potting medium with ample fertilizer. Well-fed plants are blooming with greater frequency than their less heavily fertilized cousins because the pups grow more rapidly and reach blooming size in a shorter time.

Canistrum fosterianum and *Canistrum seidelii* are both still in bloom.

Some *Cryptanthus* species are still in bloom, but not in the numbers seen last month. Now *Cryptanthus correia-araujoi*, *Cryptanthus capitatus*, and *Cryptanthus burle-marxii* are apparently the only species with open flowers.

Several *Hohenbergia* species, most not widely known because they lack any horticultural appeal, are blooming. *Hohenbergia stellata* is largely past bloom, but still retains good color on the inflorescences. *Hohenbergia pennae* is also blooming, although this plant is not grown for the bloom.

Neoregelia species and hybrids are blooming frantically. Members of the miniature *Neoregelia ampullacea* complex are blooming every several weeks as new generations of pups reach appropriate size. Another group of small, stoloniferous Neos, the *Neoregelia olens* complex (*Neoregelia camorimiana*, *Neoregelia eltoniana*, *Neoregelia indecora* and *Neoregelia olens*) are also blooming regularly. As in the previous complex, the pups on these plants are likely to produce flowers at a small size if they are left on the parents for very long. In medium-size species, *Neoregelia compacta* and *Neoregelia macwilliamsii* are blooming in small numbers along with the closely related *Neoregelia* 'Bossa Nova'. Among large plants,

members of the *Neoregelia johannis* group and the *Neoregelia carcharodon* group are still flowering, but are nearing the end.

Species of *Nidularium* are still blooming in numbers although more species seem to be in bud than in flower at the moment. *Nidularium innocentii* and *Nidularium longiflorum* still have open flowers.

Species of *Orthophytum* continue in full bloom. Most members of the *Orthophytum disjunctum* complex are in flower or bud. These include the less common *Orthophytum conquistense*, *Orthophytum harleyi*, and *Orthophytum rubiginosum* along with the more common *Orthophytum alvimii*, *Orthophytum disjunctum*, *Orthophytum gurkenii*, *Orthophytum magalhaesii* and *Orthophytum maracasense*. In the *Orthophytum amoenum* complex, I currently have a single plant of *Orthophytum roseum* and a single plant of *Orthophytum zanonii* in bloom.

Portea petropolitana extensa continues in bloom.

Many *Tillandsia* species are still in bud or in bloom. A few rogue clumps of *Tillandsia ionantha* don't know any better than to bloom at this time of year. Two plants of *Tillandsia concolor* are outdoing themselves this year. Both have turned bright red in both leaf and bloom. Normally, the inflorescence maintains a green tint throughout flowering. These are plants that came from Tropiflora. I don't know whether the coloration is normal for this clone, or the result of our unusual weather during the past two years. I will be desperately awaiting the flowering of the pups to see whether they maintain the brighter colors. *Tillandsia*

schatzlii is another species in flower. This is grown more for an 'interesting' shape, and the succulent, trichome-covered leaves than the bloom.

The inflorescence is a simple spike with a pleasing, but not outstanding, pink color. Although many species of the *Tillandsia fasciculata* complex are now past flowering, others, often pups from plants that bloomed earlier in the year are in bud or flower. A few members of *Tillandsia* subgenus *Anoplophytum* are also in bloom, although not nearly so many as in previous months. *Tillandsia caput-medusae* is another interesting species in bloom.

Many *Vriesea* species are still in bud or in bloom right now. It appears to me that we are again having much more flowering activity among members of this genus than we see during 'normal' years. Notable species in bloom are *Vriesea ensiformis*, *Vriesea incurvata*, *Vriesea procera* and *Vriesea malzinii*. Unfortunately, there is nothing on earth that a plant-eating snail finds more desirable than nice, fresh *Vriesea* inflorescence (although it might find a nice, fresh orchid flower equally attractive), so we have lost several potential blooms to their voracious appetites in nighttime raids.

As we move into summer, many spring-flowering plants will cease to flower. I expect the species of *Aechmea* subgenus *Ortgiesia* and the cultivars of *Aechmea nudicaulis* to finish blooming soon. *Aechmea chantinii* will continue to bloom throughout the summer, but at a much lower rate than present. *Billbergia* species will bloom little, if at all, over the summer. Different species of *Neoregelia* will begin to bloom now, replacing the spring-flowering species.

Members of the *Orthophytum disjunctum* complex, on the other hand, will continue blooming right through the next several months. There are plenty of buds on species of *Nidularium*, *Tillandsia* and *Vriesea* to ensure flowers for the coming months (assuming the snails leave anything for us to look at). So, plan to spend time in your garden this summer. Your plants will enjoy the company.



A Busy Year Ahead

by Alan Herndon

Over the next 18 months, our calendar is full of large bromeliad events within easy travel distance. Coming up in November is the Florida Extravaganza, an annual sale and auction that provides the main source of revenue for the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Next spring it is again time for our own Annual Show and Sale. This show is not designed to produce revenue for BSSF, but is our main opportunity to expose a larger segment of the public to the joys of bromeliads. Finally, in September 2012, the World Bromeliad Conference comes to Orlando.

The 2011 Bromeliad Extravaganza will be held in Daytona Beach on Sep 4-5. Normally there is not much activity associated with the extravaganza on Friday (September 4), but this year will be different. A separate show, within walking distance of the Extravaganza site, dedicated to bromeliad art will be running (World of Bromeliads, Peabody Auditorium). Also, the *Cryptanthus* Society will hold a judged show in conjunction with the Extravaganza. This show will feature (of course) *Cryptanthus* in both horticultural and artistic settings. Any registered participant at the Extravaganza is permitted to enter *Cryptanthus* in this show. Those of you who entered *Cryptanthus* in our annual show 2 months ago might want to see what you can do with your plants during the prime *Cryptanthus* growing weather we will have during the months before the Extravaganza. Just be aware that entries for this show will be allowed only between 10 AM and 1 PM on Friday (Sep 4), and you will need to have your entry sheets filled out correctly before presenting your plants to Classification. Friday evening will feature a mixer for Extravaganza participants.

On Saturday, the *Cryptanthus* show is open for viewing. Of course, you will want to visit the Sales Room (also open on Saturday) early, so the show may have to wait. By the way, registered Extravaganza participants are allowed in the Sales Room an hour earlier than members of the general public, so you have a better chance at the choice plants. After a day of buying plants and being amazed by the entries in the show and, perhaps, another trip to the World of Bromeliads art exhibition, you can look forward to the Banquet and Auction. The Auction will include some choice plants not available during the general sales.

Our own Annual Show and Sale will be upon us before you know it (near the middle of April 2012 _ exact dates to be determined later). As in the past, this will be a 4 day event with setup and judging on Thursday and Friday, opening to the

public on Saturday and Sunday. Of course, we will need as much help as we can get from the membership to put on this show. You will hear plenty about the opportunities to help.

We would also like to encourage members who have never entered plants for competition in our show to set a few plants aside. Give these plants extra space. If possible, give them enough space so their leaves are not touching the leaves of any other plant. You will probably be amazed by the response. Check the plants regularly for cultural problems such as scale infestation. Take quick action to solve any cultural problems noted. If you encounter problems you don't understand, bring the plants to a BSSF meeting for consultation. By the time the show rolls around, you should have at least a few spectacular plants to enter. Remember, if you are nervous about competing against the seasoned veterans, you can enter your plants in the Novice section. In any case, make the commitment to enter plants. You will find that preparing plants for competition is the best way to learn more about growing better plants

As the name implies, the World Bromeliad Conference is a large affair drawing bromeliad enthusiasts from all over the world. In 2012, the World Bromeliad Conference is coming to our neighborhood. It will be held in the center of Florida, at the Caribe Royale, some 15 miles SE of the Orlando International Airport (very close to Disneyworld/Epcot). This gathering is sponsored by the Bromeliad Society International (BSI). More detailed information can be found on the BSI website (www.bsi.org).

Know Thy Web Sites for Extravaganza

MAIN PAGE:

<http://theartofbromeliads.wordpress.com/>

CALENDAR:

<http://theartofbromeliads.wordpress.com/about/>

REGISTRATION/HOTEL:

<http://theartofbromeliads.wordpress.com/registration/>

REGISTRATION FORM:

<http://theartofbromeliads.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/registration.pdf>

INFORMATION ABOUT HOTEL:

<http://theartofbromeliads.wordpress.com/where/>

HOTEL WEB SITE:

<http://www.plazaresortandspa.com/>

Activities for registered participants occupy nearly a full week (Sep 24-30, 2012). These include a judged bromeliad show (everyone is encouraged to enter plants in the show – start preparing your entries now), a series of informative lectures on various bromeliad-related topics, the mother of all bromeliad sales (bring plenty of money for all of the plants you just won't see elsewhere), meals and mixers where you are encouraged to make the acquaintance of bromeliad growers outside of our little Florida circle and a Rare Plant auction where plants even more desirable than those in the Sales room trade hands. Local tours to fit varied interests, but always including some visits to local growers, will also be available.

Early registration for the conference is available now. If you are a member of BSI, this fee is \$160 if you register before Mar 2012. If you are not currently a member of BSI, you may join while registering for the conference by sending in an additional \$45 for an individual (if two family members are registering for the conference, they would send \$60 for a dual membership). You can also take advantage of a \$10 Affiliate discount by giving the registration form to the BSSF Treasurer for transmission to the BSI.

An event as large as the World Bromeliad Conference needs lots of workers to keep things running smoothly. We will be asking BSSF members who attend the conference to volunteer some of their time. Yes – this is just what it sounds like – we are asking you to pay for the privilege of working. We pathetically try to justify this by

appealing to your sense of duty to the bromeliad world and pointing out that we really, really need the help. For those susceptible to the appeal of a more grandiose-sounding argument, we have you covered. “Your World Conference experience will be richer if you spend some time helping other attendees. After all, the primary benefit of attending a World Conference is the opportunity to meet and interact with bromeliad enthusiasts from other regions. There is no better way to start these interactions than signing up as a volunteer.”

Expect personal invitations to volunteer for various committees. I will need help with Data Entry. Pepe Donayre will need help with Staging. Local societies will be encouraged to enter exhibits at the 2012 WBC. BSSF needs to stage an exhibit worthy of our plants. Plenty of other opportunities

to help will be brought to your attention over the next few months.

In summary, there is a lot of bromeliad activity available during the coming year that will take you far beyond the boundaries of your own garden. Please join us on the journey.

Field Trip

The society will take a field trip to the southern hemisphere – just north of Homestead and bordering Krome Avenue. The venture will be on **July 16, 2011**. Plans are to go deep wouth and west and crawl back.

Stop 1:

Start in the morning at **9:00 AM** at 28001 Southwest 197th Avenue, Homestead, FL 33030 at Bromeliad Specialties. Ron Herndon, brother of Alan, has acres upon acres of *Tillandsia* under shade. You can buy hundreds of his plants and put them all in a tote bag – and the prices cannot be beaten.

Stop 2:

Stelmar Gardens, 19350 SW 232nd Street, Miami, FL 33170. It is their annual SUMMERFEST. There

will be approximately a dozen vendors – food and pant - at the premises, selling orchids, ferns and other tropicals, and there may even be some bromeliads there through a vendor most of you will recognize.

Stop 3:

Tradewinds Tropicals – Alan and Rhonda Herndon's nursery. 16400 SW 240 St., Miami, FL. It is on a dirt road, so if you need help, call 305-484-2743. Neoregelias are abundant and affordable – bromeliad lovers' heaven. *NOT ADDRESS IN*

ROSTER!!!!

Stop 4:

Lori Weyrick's eden located at 14880 SW 200 St., Miami, FL 33187. Food and drink will be provided here for those who can withstand the anticipated heat.

See you there and there and there and there.

August Meeting in the Auditorium

We meet in the Auditorium in August – FTBG request. Just next door.



How About a Night Ride?

Carl Bauer, our beloved president, also drives the trolley for Fairchild as a volunteer. He is finishing with training and will offer to take us on a night ride. Anyone interested? If so, we will have a sign up sheet at the meeting to get an idea of how many would like to attend. Dates and times to be established at a later time.

BSI Journal on Archive to All

The BSI has delivered years of the BSI Journal to free pdf-formatted archive. Merely go to <http://journal.bsi.org/>

Board to Present Nat DeLeon Scholarship to the Membership

by Robert Meyer

At the June meeting, the board again reviewed the concept of creating a scholarship for students in this area – or other areas – who had interests, enrollment, or imminent enrollment in horticultural classes which included bromeliads.



Craig Morrell has offered to be the chair of a committee, if the membership approves the concept, to review scholastic applications for the scholarship which would be directed exclusively to the students attending Miami-Dade College.

Any persons interested in aiding Morrell in handling this endeavor, are openly welcomed to assist in the review of the applications, which shall be in a format determined by Morrell and any volunteers to this endeavor.

It was brought to the attention of the board that scholarship in bromeliads at Miami-Dade College was predominantly with *Guzmania* and *Aechmea fasciata* – hence the board also included that the scholarship's name be that of Miami's greatest known *Guzmania* or *Aechmea fasciata* grower: Nat DeLeon.

The scholarship is proposed to be for \$500.00.

Attend the June 21, 2011 meeting to voice your opinion, and if the matter passes resolution, please walk up to Craig Morrell or myself and give us your name as a volunteer.

Librarian Needed

The society still needs someone to fill the shoes of the one-evening-per-month position of being the librarian for the society's library. Approach Carl Bauer or Barbara Partagas at the next meeting if you could be capable of taking on this responsibility.

Murder in Corbin A

© by Robert Meyer

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24.

The coroners came as did forensics. Boss ambled about while the necessary but boring details of the crime scene investigation trodded painfully along at a slug's pace. Questions were asked in triplicate: first homicide, then forensics and finally by internal affairs.

"Why is internal affairs involved?" Rodriguez asked Boss.

"Because of you. Because of your divorce. Because he was a judge. Because the only intruder that they can find is the person who busted down the two-bit door this cheap son-of-a-bitch foolishly thought would protect him from any one of a hundred angry people who had entered his courtroom with hope and left with despair. That's why."

"When do you think the fog clears?" The two had already been at the place for eight hours, and expected to stay no less than another three before being granted permission to leave.

"Before you can return to the precinct. The judge was cold. He was dead hours before we got here. If you have any alibi for last night, you will be free. Got one?"

"Yes I do. I was playing poker last night with about five other guys from precinct."

"Okay, you are covered." Now, Boss asked himself, what was going on with the bromeliad people. It made no sense to him or anyone. This old man, now years removed from the courtroom, was no longer capable of harming anyone. Why him? Why now? Why this method? What did he know? Who knew he knew?

Boss immediately got on the phone and called Linares. After his initial hello and how are you today commencement, he asked: "Know anyone who may dislike the judge?"

"What a bizarre question Of course not. Why is the old coot doing a Bea Smith impression?" She toyed in response.

He could not allow her to know what he did or how involved he was with the previous investigation. So, he prefaced his comments carefully. "As a matter of fact, it just was announced on the news, yes."

"Oh my God. Oh my God. Oh my God." Other words could not be uttered. She was totally in shock. And suddenly the phone went dead.

Boss and Rodriguez were equally stumped. And, all they could do was sit and wait for the same questions to be asked of them over and over until they were told no more would be needed. Eventually, the crowd thinned, and people went into their respective vehicles. The two sat and listened to the last of the disappearing roar of the diesel engines which faded into the humid evening air. When silence intruded upon their concentrated states, they looked at one another and understood that the beauty of the night was not before or near them, but instead stood above them as the full moon quietly sat above them and shined upon the city in quiet approval. It was then that the men reinforced their allegiance to Miami, their otherwise rude abode.

"There is one bad apple out there Boss, and we need to get him or her off our streets."

"Those are great words Rodriguez. I know you did not like that man. But, I also know that you know that he deserved much better. This means more poker for you, more dates with Linares for me, and more meetings with BSSF for Marlene."

"Okay with me Boss. But, if I may make one remark?" at which time Boss nodded silently and slowly. "I think you got the better part of this deal." They both smiled, then deflected their attention to the skies as they each again looked up to Miami's glorious moon.

25.

That day, while Boss and Rodriguez were snarled by red tape which only the police could incubate, Captain called out to two uniforms to go to the judge's daughter's home to have her come to identify the body and maybe give a clue.

Her name was Emily. No one knew her. The two uniforms soon would.

She was five feet tall, slender like a teenager, and rarely seen without a cigarette in her hand. With long greying hair, she answered the door amidst her cigarette smoke, and with raspy voice asked who was there.

"Sergeant Valdez and Officer Johnson ma'm." As she opened the door, they each pointed to their badges and asked if they could enter the home. She obliged by opening the door wider and rolling her eyes. "What do you guys want?" she asked before they got to the sofa.

Being diffident is easier for some than for others. Emily was practically a professional diffident. She had the ability to walk into a room of five people, and leave with six angry egos. She could make people disagree with her just out of spite. Her parents gave up all conversation with her before she was teenager. Men never attempted to date her because of this trait. Women were attracted to her visage and slender body, but within moments of conversation, even the most aggressive woman would understand that even the looks could not make up for her diffidence. Emily was a loner. All caused by her personality.

"Please sit down." the Sergeant offered. But, she stood. "We have some important news to tell you, but think that you may wish to sit." She stood. "It is about your father."

"Is he dead?" she asked coarsely.

"Well, not personally caring to put it so bluntly, I guess an answer would be yes. It appears there may have been a murder."

"Good luck finding a suspect. Most anyone who went to his court over the past four decades would have justifiable cause to murder that man. He was a ballbuster. And, he was worse as a father."

"Well we came not to talk about his past or others' impressions of him. We need for you to handle formalities of identifying the body and filling out some forms."

"Not in the mood." Emily may have grown older, but she had not grown out of her diffidence.

"Maybe today is a bad day. Can we expect you tomorrow?"

"No, and not the day after or the day after that. Keep me out of it. I have no interest in the matter. Call my sister. She lives in town."

"What is her name?" the Sergeant asked knowing that little more good would come from Emily.

"Candy Albertson."



The Art of Bromeliads 2011

Extravaganza



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Conference Registration \$60 Make checks payable to FECBS

Detach at dotted line and mail to: *Eve Krauth, Treasurer*
Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society
1904 Poppy Lane
Port Orange, Fl. 32128

Name (s) _____

Address _____

Email _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Banquet Dinner: Chicken Tuscany Salmon with Dill-Cucumber Eggplant Napoleon

Do you plan to attend Friday night reception? yes no maybe

Will you attend the Sunday morning reception for the Art of Bromeliads Exhibition?
 yes no maybe