

Bromeliad Society of Broward County

MAY 2020 SCURF

www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/



Vriesea "Pink Delight" by David Fell

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY
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Meeting Update

Another month has come and gone in our historic pandemic and as you know, Broward county is just now opening up little by little. While many of us are itching to get back to normal, we must continue to abide by the requirements set forth for groups such as ours.

While you may be ready to venture out to your favorite restaurant or small social event, others are more than willing to continue to isolate and wait for the all clear.. which may not come for several more months. We will continue to monitor the guidelines set forth by the CDC and local authorities in hopes that we may yet have a meeting this summer.

Affiliations: BSBC supports the BSI, Cryptanthus Society and FCBS (2017-2020)



Expand Your Collection

Last month we mentioned how you can join several Facebook groups that specialize in bromeliads and other gardening interests. Now may be a good time to expand your collection beyond just your favorite group. Think back to all the great speakers we've had over the past several years who shared their love of Dyckias, Billbergias, Vrieseas, etc.

This list (at right) comes from our sister society the BSSF. These are the bromeliad genera that they offer in their annual judged shows. While the list leaves out a few of the more obscure groups, this is a great place to start your research and determine which ones you'd like to try. Maybe you prefer the colors hybrids offer or perhaps you just want to focus on true species plants. Either way, consider using this time to expand your "bromeliad horizons".

While many of these may not be available from your favorite local nursery, you can find many on line through eBay and other bromeliad dealers. Our own Shirley Konefal specializes in on line plant sales and is a great resource for many of these. She can assist in obtaining them for you so you can focus more on enjoying your new favorite brom!

Bromeliad Gegus List

1. Inter-Generic	25. Edmundoa	49. Ochogavia
2. Acanthostachys	26. Encholirium	50. Orthophytum
3. Aechmea	27. Fascicularia	51. Pepinia
4. Alcantarea	28. Fernseea	52. Pitcairnia
5. Ananas	29. Glomeropitcairnia	53. Portea
6. Andrea	30. Goudaea	54. Pseudachmea
7. Androlepis	31. Gregbrownia	55. Pseudalcantarea
8. Araecoccus	32. Greigia	56. Pseudananas
9. Ayensua	33. Guzmania	57. Puya
10. Barfussia	34. Hechtia	58. Quesnelia
11. Billbergia	35. Hohenbergia	59. Racinaea
12. Brewcaria	36. Hohenbergiopsis	60. Ronnbergia
13. Brochinia	37. Jagrantia	61. Sincoraea
14. Bromelia	38. Josemania	62. Stigmatadon
15. Canistropsis	39. Lapanthus	63. Steyerbromelia
16. Canistrum	40. Lemeltonia	64. Tillandsia
17. Catopsis	41. Lindmania	65. Ursulea
18. Connellia	42. Lutheria	66. Vriesia
19. Cottendorfia	43. Lymania	67. Wallisia
20. Cryptanthus	44. Mezobromelia	68. Werauhia
21. Deinacanthos	45. Navia	69. Wittmackia
22. Deuterocohnia	46. Neoglaziovia	70. Wittrockia
23. Disteganthus	47. Neoregelia	71. Zizkaea
24 Dyckia	48. Nidularium	



Growers around the world are creating some of the most unique blends of colors, textures, and other unique characteristics from multiple bromeliad species. This particular image (at left) was found on Facebook and created a lot of interest from collectors around the globe. It's a perfect example of new hybrids you can find on line and hopefully chase down from the person who posted it.

Most bromeliad enthusiasts are familiar with Chester Skotak's Neoregelias or Don Beadle's work with Billbergias. Both are legends in the world of bromeliads as is David Fell who specializes in hybridizing Vrieseas. His latest creation is "Pink Delight" and graces the front cover of this issue of the Scurf. This is the second in his journey into merging the color pink into the unique blends of color and banding characteristics that only Vriesea's offer.

From Our Gardens



As another month of social distancing and periods of isolation are the new normal, one thing remains a shining light and that's the extra time most of us can spend in our gardens. Below are several images from the gardens of your fellow BSBC member Judith Lahey.



Fences are a perfect place to display tillandsias and other smaller bromeliads along with hanging orchids



This front bed has wonderful textures and color

Several Neo's and other more shade-loving broms



These pineapples will be ready for harvest soon!

Always room for orchids

Judith is part of the Membership Committee and one of the first people you meet when you come to our meetings. We are so happy to finally get a glimpse into her gardens!



Jackie Matuseki's Easter collection

The beautiful arrangement at left was sent in by Jackie Matuseki showing not only a few of her favorite inside plants, but her keen eye for arranging them. Well done, Jackie!

Below are several photos from the gardens of Diane Leiner. Diane has been a part of our society for years, but this may be the first time we actually get to see her collection. She has a knack for getting some of the top plants at sales and auctions and her collection shows it!

She has a diverse group consisting of many species as well as a creative way of arranging and displaying them. She admits her heart-shaped tilly wreath was inspired by none other than Ann Schandelmayer's beautiful Ionantha wreath. Keep up the great work, Diane and we look forward to seeing more soon!



Hanging tillandsias between trees



Flamingos & heart-shaped wreath



Nice mix of colors and textures



Mature neos nestled under a palm



Sun-loving Neos and Aechmeas



The fern's texture completes the bed

Last month's issue included a few blooming plants from the gardens of Molly Lesnick. Turns out, they were just the tip of the iceberg! Molly explains that the mature beds of *Portea* 'petroplitanas' and *Hoenbergia* 'stellata' were on the property when they bought the house, but she's added so much more over the years. Here are some additional photos of her gardens for you to enjoy.



Always easy to spot a brom love from the curb



The Portea 'petroplitanas' are still blooming



Like so many of us, Molly focuses more on the beauty of the plant rather than nomenclature. Her gardens include several plants that are considered rare these days and are usually only found amongst private collectors rather than big box stores and local nurseries. From palm trees adorned with clumps of native tillandsias, to large beds of *Hoenbergias*, *Porteas*, and dozens of mature potted *Aechmeas*, Molly has a collection for the ages and we are so glad she's shared them with us.



Molly's large colony of Hoenbergia 'stellata'



Stunning "stellata bloom!"



One of Molly's many orchids

Creating a Bromeliad Tree

Creating a bromeliad tree can be done in many ways and with a variety of trees whether living or dead. You may even have a large limb that fell during a storm or perhaps you plan to remove a nuisance tree. All of these options can work in your favor creating maximum curb appeal!

Beyond the tree and bromeliads you choose to work with, the materials and methods you use to attach the plants may vary based on the tree's diameter and bark texture. You can use wire, twine, old nylon stockings, burlap or even plastic zip ties to attach the plants to the trunk. This is a great project to bring interest and life to any area in your garden or to re-purpose a dying tree!



In this video, the gardener chooses to use a living palm tree which offers a rough trunk that is perfect for attaching his choice of Neoregelias using wire.

The transformation of the tree and the area beneath is nothing short of amazing.

[WATCH HERE](#)

In this video, the gardener chooses to use a portion of a dead tree in a container filled with dirt, rock, or possibly concrete to minimize decay and secure it before attaching her plants. The end result is simply gorgeous so try it if you have the space and resources.

[WATCH HERE](#)



Growing From Seeds...Continued



Once you have viable seeds in your plants either by natural or manual pollination, the next step is to collect and prepare them.

In this short video, the gardener shows how easily it can be done.

[WATCH HERE](#)

In this video from Mr. Vivarium, you'll see more tips on how to extract seed pods from a neoregelia as well as how to extract the seeds from the fruit and germinate them.

His youth and interest in gardening is refreshing!

[WATCH HERE](#)

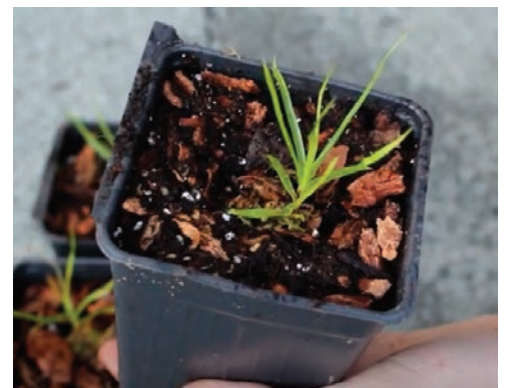


Mr. Vivarium continues with some tips on planting seeds he has from *Aechmea* 'bromeliifolia', *Alcantarea* 'imperialis', and *Wehauria* 'sanguinolenta'.

[WATCH HERE](#)

In this last video, Mr. Vivarium shows you how he prepares his soil mixture and actually plants the brom seedlings that have sprouted; a process that can take up to a year with some species while others can sprout in a matter of only a couple of months.

[WATCH HERE](#)



From The Editor



So we've made it through another month of separation from our society and friends and still no end in sight. I miss seeing everyone and I find myself often wondering how everyone is doing. I even miss Larry's hat collection and I hope he's not letting them collect too much dust!

I did some landscape projects in Deerfield Beach this month to keep my creative juices flowing, but getting supplies was a bit more stressful. I was in Sarasota this past week on business and saw little signs of social distancing or PPE out in public. I made a quick stop at Tropiflora since I have other landscape projects in the works, but didn't see anything I really needed.



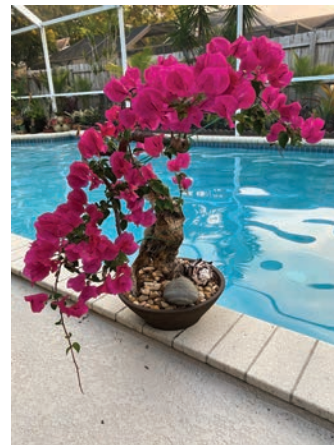
So here are some of the latest treasures in my garden. The Neo cluster at left has given me my first albino plant! After reading up on it, I've learned it's not that uncommon and is simply void of chlorophyll. I read that it will die if I remove it from the parent so I'm glad I read first because I would have removed it.



The plant to the right is the Neo. 'concentrica' that I have brought to our meetings a couple of times. The two new pups are #22 & #23 off this single plant! Anyone need one?



Rangoon Creeper in full bloom and the scent fills the air!



Bonsai bougainvillea



Artemis gets a new perch

Like you, I have non-brom plants that I adore and this month both my bougainvillea bonsai and my rangoon creeper have exploded in color so I just have to share with you. My daughter Bria is home from college and keeps in touch with her old volunteer group at the Daggerwing Nature Center in Boca. She learned that Artemis, the resident eastern screech owl, had out grown the last perch we made for her so together we created a new perch and added a couple of Neo. 'tic tac' pups and a small piece of tillandsia 'funkiana'. Artemis seems to be happy with the results!

Until next time,

-Brad 9

May Birthdays



Wain Barber

Zoe Bejar

Gracie Gray

Barbara Moorman

Melissa Stevens

Bill Frazel

Upcoming Events, Things to See

As we head into another south Florida summer combined with early stages of re-opening the area due to the pandemic, there are no events planned for the immediate future.

If you're suffering from a severe case of cabin fever and are considering venturing out beyond the grocery store, start by reaching out to those in your immediate circle or your closest gardening mates. It's a great way to stay outside while also getting some time in another person's garden. If all they ask you to do is pull weeds, just smile and remind them you have weeds too! Be sure to take some brooms to add to their collection which in turn increases your chance of coming home with some new plants for yours!

Most area parks and beaches are now open with a few restrictions and offer additional chances to see something other than your home's interior walls and garden. We will be reaching out in the coming weeks to the team at Markham Park in hopes of getting back to the design phase of that project which stalled due to the virus.

For now, continue to catch up on your reading or just binge watch your favorite shows and movies for a second time. The worst of this pandemic may be behind us so it's never too soon to make plans for the future. We will of course update you as soon as we get word that it's safe to once again meet at Deicke.

Lastly, let's not forget about Ann Schandelmayer and Becky Blackwood who are still recovering at home and always have time for a phone call from a friend. They've given so much of themselves to our society over the years so it's the least we can do.