

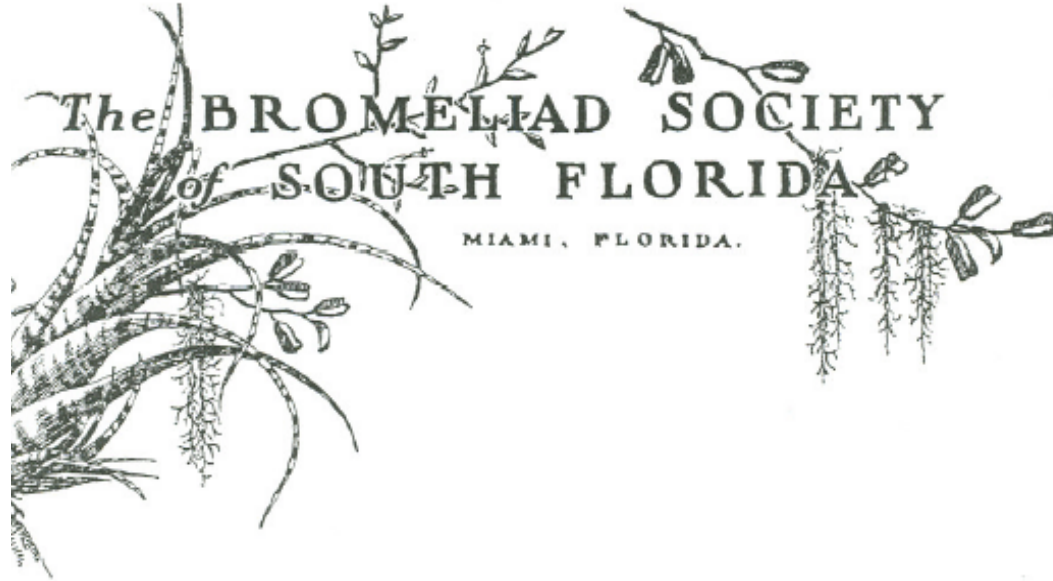
Bromeli Advisory

April 2016



In this Issue

President's Message	1
In Case You Missed It	1-2
Members to Road Trip	2-3
28 th Annual BSSF Show	3-4
Murder in Corbin A	4-6
Upcoming Events	6
Entry Worksheet	7





BromeliAdvisory

Stop and Smell the Bromeliads

April 2016

WEBPAGE: <http://www.bssf-miami.org/>

-  http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSF/?bookmark_t=group
-  <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/8466168429>

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- Raffle:** Melissa Brail
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What	Who
Sales Table	Alex Bello

MEETING: April 19, 2016

SPEAKER: TERESA COOPER, PH.D.

RAFFLE TABLE: Alex Bello

FOOD: Chris Pfeffer, Melissa Brail, Fred and Martha Sussenberger, Ellis and Rusty Brown, Maureen Adelman

About the Speaker

TERESA COOPER has worked extensively on the Evil Weevil ("EW"). The EW attacks native species of bromeliads and cultivated varieties in Florida. Dr. Cooper's Masters and PhD research at the University of Florida focused on the EW, also known as the Mexican Bromeliad Weevil. Teresa and others are now looking for other solutions to the weevil infestation in Florida with what she calls a 'bottom up' control, with two objectives. First, they would look at the nature of plants infected and varieties of those plants and second, they would conduct active conservation and augmentation programs.

1. *Til. utriculata* in Central America vs. *Til. utriculata* in Florida. *Til. utriculata* is native to Central America and coexists there with the Mexican bromeliad. It appears resistant to the weevil and shows no negative impact from its presence. Not true for Florida's. This leads Teresa and her group to question whether *Til. utriculata* found in Latin America is the same form or species as *Til. utriculata* found in Florida. If the two forms are different, they could potentially hybridize them to make a resistant form. 2. Active Conservation and Augmentation The second arm of the 'bottom up' control approach to addressing the loss of native bromeliads is to actively conserve *Til. utriculata* in Florida. This program will enlist parks, refuges, sanctuaries, and private landowners to cumulatively promote, maintain and protect *Til. utriculata* populations on their lands.

For those interested in more details about the EW, you can log on and read her presentation which is at http://etd.fcla.edu/UF/UFE0041114/cooper_t.pdf

President's Message

by Robert Meyer

Pray that the weather of our Show can compare to the weather the week before.

The Show, under all circumstances, must go on.

This year hopes to be as good as the last. And, because of time constraints, I again implore upon all to look to the last page of this Advisory and fill out the plant entry form and send it to Alan at Alanherndon@aol.com.

Mine went out the day I prepared this BromeliAdvisory, Please follow and do the same by Wednesday.

See you this weekend. Come rain or shine. Hopefully the former.

Robert

In Case You Missed It

Leonard Goldstein

When Dennis Cathcart years ago switched his allegiance from reptiles to bromeliads, little did he know that the pretty plants often bite harder than the animals. But he was undaunted. Forty-one years later he is still collecting bromeliads, and for at least the last three decades, he has been speaking to the BSSF about them.



His March 15 presentation to our group was Part III of the series entitled, "New Explorations and Discoveries in Brazil," a photographic survey of the 2014 visit by Dennis and his wife, Linda, to southern regions of that bromeliad-soaked land. Whereas Part I dealt with Minas Gerais state and Part II concentrated on Rio Grande do Sul, Part III highlighted Santa Catarina state, located just above Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil's southernmost state. Santa Catarina is a bit paradoxical: While it encompasses the southern limit of the Atlantic Forest, it is not truly tropical. But the slight geographic-climatic differences between it and Rio Grande do Sol

allow Santa Catarina to possess a much richer bromeliad flora.

The Cathcarts found that southern Brazil has a very European feel, with expressions of German and Italian architecture. They started their sojourn at Joinville in the far northeast of Santa Catarina. Normally a very moist area, in 2014 it was in the midst of a severe drought. Bromeliads native to the region include *Vriesia philippo-coburgii*, a very common and photogenic species; *V. rodigasiana*, which grows like a weed; *V. ensiformis*, which produces a beautiful crimson spike; and *V. altodaserrae*, a species once under cultivation in Florida. Adding diversity to the area are the Ric-Rac Cactus, *Cryptocereus anthonyanus*, and orchid species including *Oncidium*s.

Upon reaching the Itajai River, the Cathcarts were surprised to find it near flood stage despite the drought. There they encountered a most unusual rheophytic bromeliad, *Dyckia brevifolia*, which lives on rocks in the river bed and is not to be found on shore. The species blooms and sets seed year-round, and plants may stay submerged for a month or so without skipping a beat. Dennis believes that unidentified species of *Dyckia* outnumber identified species around the Itajai. Unsurprisingly – remember, these plants can really bite – there is no burning desire by botanists to work with the larger species in this formidable genus.

Aside from bromeliads, other interesting plants in the Itajai area include the epiphytic cactus, *Rhipsalis teres*, and other species which live on cliffs near the river.

While in Santa Catarina, the Cathcarts visited with Constantino Gastaldi, who not only has an internet site (dyckiabrasil.blogspot.com) on Dyckias, but personally possesses representatives of almost all the species in the genus.

Around Barra do Sul, southeast of Joinville, other bromeliad species are to be found. And offshore islands nearby have a profusion of Dyckias unlike those on the mainland. There is a variety of habitats in a fairly small area. The coastal habitat, known as restinga, features dunes, and the Burrowing Owl, *Athene cunicularia*, is a protected animal species. The area, usually very dry, is characterized by low-

growing plants. Dyckias native there form impenetrable mattes upon which epiphytes such as the vanilla orchid grow. *Aechmea gamosepala* is also native to the restinga. Other flora found there include *Butia* palms and *Opuntia* cacti.

The habitat next to the restinga is notably lush, though plant diversity there is still not great. Gamboa, down the coast from Barra do Sul and southwest of Florianópolis, is in one of those zones. The climate there is roughly equivalent to that of Jacksonville, but much snowier. Though the plant diversity is not great, some very tropical-looking flora resides there nevertheless. Not only is it home to *Neoregelia laevis*, the most southerly *Neoregelia*, but *Aechmea nudicaulis*, *A. gamosepala* and *Billbergia porteana* are also native. Representatives of the aroid family found around Gamboa include *Philodendron bipinnatifidum* and a *Monstera* species. The orchid *Cattleya forbesii* is not only prolific in the region, but expresses various color forms.

The habitat around Three Peaks Mountain provided the muddiest terrain that the Cathcarts encountered in Santa Catarina. In fact, none of the locals – except for one brave taxi driver – was willing to transport them on the region’s steep and narrow logging roads. Eventually the party approached Serra do Taboão, but the last mile had to be traversed on foot. The destination cliff was covered with an undescribed *Dyckia* for which Gastaldi proposes the name *D. riosolensis*. (To give attendees an idea of the moisture encountered in this habitat, Dennis pointed out that it was characterized by the carnivorous genus *Drosera*, a notorious water-lover.) The effort to gain access to the yet-unnamed *Dyckia* was treacherous, for one side of the peak was very forested, featuring *Fuchsias*, *Vriesia platynema variegata*, *V. guttata*, and *Edmundoa lindenii* (in green and red forms).

Dennis took a moment during his presentation to talk about Alvim Seidel, a famous name in the worlds of both bromeliads and orchids. The family nursery, Orquidário Catarinense, had passed its hundredth anniversary in Santa Catarina less than a year before Seidel died in 2007. Dennis noted that when Seidel filled orders, he often substituted something better than what the customer had ordered, typically an unidentified species. His son, Donato, and

his grandson now run the business, but its market is tiny because exportation is no longer permitted. However, there are still lots of Seidel hybrids in the trade.

The *Araucaria angustifolia* forest, specifically the area around Campo Alegre, was the last habitat visited by the Cathcarts. The genus cannot be cut for lumber anymore, but a loophole allows trees to be cleared for farming. The very hardy *Aechmea ornata* grows in that habitat. The forest yields to a pampas region where on one knobby hill – with none alike around it -- a *Dyckia* is native. That sole species is quite variable. In fact, Dennis encountered almost no two plants that were identical. He referred to the area as a salad bar; even the flowering was variable. Although the *Dyckia* habitat is very wet, some very drought-tolerant plants grow next to the bromeliads – higher up, on rocks.

Members to Road Trip

by Robert Meyer

Lori Weyrich arranged the trip, God arranged the weather, and the gathering in Naples Botanical Garden (“NBG”) by 11 BSSF members became a success of great proportion.



A two-hour drive across Highway 41, the garden literally sits

only a half block away on the southeastern portion of Naples. The entry was great as the roaming herd was greeted by Martha and Fred Sussenberger who wisely made a weekend retreat of this adventure.

The NBG is a vast park exceeding 100 acres which dedicates various portions to themes: Brazil, Asia and Florida among the many.

The walkways are Disneyesque clean. A children’s area includes tiny houses fit for the children and wisely unaccommodating to parents or grandparents. Amid the children’s area sits

a water park with jetting fountains spurting from the ground which excite the children, and anonymous elders.

In the horticultural wings the diversity of the plants makes one call out for plant identifying tags – which are seemingly provided on almost every plant. The BSSF clan had an informal game of calling out the names and then checking tags to verify who was or who was not correct.

In the nippier weather amid Naples’ winters, certain plants cannot thrive as they do in Miami’s Zone 10.5. But, the crew at NBG appear to have escaped nature’s cold’s curse as few plants showed any signs of stress from the colder temperatures exhibited in the Naples’ usually cool winter.

The NBG ends your tour with a must stop at the NBG restaurant – the Fogg Café. Each dish had a twist on the normal fare sold in diners or elsewhere, and a few members imbibed with a few bottle of choice New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc.

In the end, Sandy Roth showed the others how shopping is really done, after which the respective parties went their ways – all knowing that this week will be among the most tiresome with meetings, a show, and more coming these next 10 days.

The 38th Annual BSSF Show – A Survival Guide

by Alan Herndon

Our normal schedule for show set-up and judging has been greatly modified this year, so a step-by-step description of the new process for entering plants and artistic entries is needed. The new process is detailed below for both

Thursday and Friday entries. A sketch of activities during the weekend is also presented.

Thursday, 14 April 2016:

4 – 9 PM Entries for the show will be accepted in the loggia of the Garden House. We do not have any place to store entries prior to 4 PM, so please do not bring them to the loggia earlier. You will be able to unload your plants at the South Gate, but if the South Parking Lot (now an Employee Only lot) is full, you will have to move your car to the Main Parking Lot by the Visitors Center after unloading.

Time	Event	Thursday
4PM to 9PM	Entries for Plants at FTBG	
9PM to 10PM	Plants placed on tables	
Time	Event	Friday
8AM to 10AM	Late Entries for Plants	Try to avoid
10AM to 11:30AM	Setting up Show	
11:30AM to 12:30AM	Judge’s Luncheon	
12:30AM to 5PM	Judging of Plants	
5PM to late	Volunteer Dinner at Sandy’s	
Time	Event	Saturday
9:30AM to 4:30PM	Show and Sales	
1PM to 2PM	AUCTION	
Time	Event	Sunday
9:30AM to 4:30PM	Show and Sales	
1PM to 2PM	AUCTION	
2PM to 3PM	Chamber Music	
4:30 PM to ?	Break down of Show	

Remember to bring your entry sheet along with your entries, *even if you submitted a copy earlier.* Your first stop will be at the Classification Tables in the loggia. Here the entry sheets will be completed. Your entries will be placed in the appropriate Division, Section and

Class according to our Show Schedule. At this time, we will try to assist with plant names or other questions. Since we have only half the number of hours for Classification and Data Entry this year compared to past years, we will have to keep the line moving and will not have as much time to answer questions regarding individual entries as we did in previous years.

The next step will be the assignment of an official Entry Number to each entry. You will take your completed Entry Sheet to a designated Entry Number station. Here, each entry on your Entry Sheet will be assigned a consecutive number. You will be asked to remove any of your own tags remaining on plants at this point. (If your entry is a potted plant, a tag buried beneath the soil surface does not need to be removed.) Temporary tags with the official Entry Number will be placed with the entry and the entries will be placed in

consecutive order on tables or racks awaiting the printed Entry Card. Once the Entry Card is attached, the plants will be moved to the show tables.

9 - 10 PM Plants and other entries with printed entry tags will be placed on the Show Tables.

Friday, 15 April 2016

Please remember that this is a normal workday for Fairchild employees. The South Parking Lot is reserved for these employees during working hours. You may unload items for the show in the South Lot and bring them in through the South Gate, but you will need to park in the Main Lot and walk back to the Garden Room .

8 - 10 AM If you could not bring in your entries on Thursday, you can bring them in during these hours. Given the severely limited amount of time available for finalizing show setup, it may not be possible to finish processing all entries presented during this window. To ensure your entries are on display during the show, please bring them in on Thursday.

10 -11:30 AM This period will be devoted to finishing the show setup in preparation for judging. Final arrangement of entries on Show Tables.

11:30 - 12:30 Judges and volunteers luncheon. Volunteers working on the final setup in the morning and/or as Judge's Clerks in the afternoon are invited to this luncheon.

12:30 - 5 PM Judging will be in progress all afternoon. The Garden Room will be closed during Judging to all except those assisting with the show Friday afternoon. After judging is complete, Major Award Winners will be arranged on the Head Table.

5 PM - ??? Judges/Volunteers/Vendors Dinner Party in Sandy Roth's garden. Volunteers who work at any time during the show are invited. Good food, good company, a chance to meet new people.

Saturday, 16 April 2016

7 - 9 AM Final arrangement of entries on the Show Tables and Major Award Winners on the Head Table. Adjustments to the show room in preparation for the public. Member's Plant Table set up in the sales area.

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM Show Room and Sales Area open to the public.

1 - 2 PM Plant auction featuring bromeliads from the commercial vendors

Sunday, 17 April 2016

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM Show Room and Sales Area open to the public.

1 - 2 PM Plant auction featuring bromeliads from Bromeliad Society of South Florida members.

2 - 3 PM Chamber music provided in the Show Room by members of the Southwood Middle Chamber Orchestra, Tinder Burris, director.

4:30 - ??? PM Break down of show. All entries must be picked up by their owners during this period. We can use the South Parking Lot and Gate for loading.

Thank you all for your participation. Enjoy the Show.

MURDER IN CORBIN A

© by Robert Meyer

PREVIOUS CHAPTERS MAY BE SEEN IN <http://www.bssf-miami.org/>

133.

Shopping at discount sales is a contact sport. Old timers can tell you of the elbowing at Filene's basement. Old worlders reminisce about how shopping combines battling and haggling. Stockbrokers know about the floor and how the people who work with on it callous after toughing



Show 2015

it out on a daily basis. Many remember the early 30's habit of soothing their job-related ulcers with dairy guzzling. Electronics dealing in midtown Manhattan is full fledged gladiator warfare. Many sales are equally arduous. Others are more stressful. And, many more can rightfully assert to make Filene's, the stock market, electronics markets or old world bazaars seem mild. One of the others would include shopping for bromeliads at the Extravaganza or competing at the bidding at the plant auction held during the Extravaganza's dinner.

When the Extravaganza's doors open for the members, hurried hoards prance from booth to booth where unique plants are for sale. The sport becomes most obvious when a golden s found – a booth demanding attention. Leaders gather others for their attentions and stealthily leave others behind while they jump upon that one booth. This golden booth is either the result of benevolence or ignorance. The seller is underpricing, and no one better knows that Extravaganza buyers. At this one booth lies a plant or plants which are either rare or no longer grown. The ability to obtain the same is difficult. Extravaganza professional buyers will gobble up those plants. Quickly. Silently. And say not a word until another spots his or her box of purchases – often held openly revealing its contents which are filled with the rare plants. And, at that moment when eyes meet, simple heads tilt toward that one booth, and silent head gestures are delivered by the observant to the holder of the open box, conveying thanks for the information.

Some buyers think this is not imbalanced enough. Knowledge of the plants which are being underpriced is not enough. Discovering markets where no markets exist also occurs at every Extravaganza. Nurserymen take hotel rooms at the Extravaganza venue, relay to others their room number, and have a black market of rare goodies for the others to purchase at seemingly reasonable prices. After all, each tells themselves, how much can they overprice a rare commodity to an infatuated purchaser? Keynesian economics will legitimize such marketing, even this black marketing.

The Extravaganza's infrequency, a biannual affair, further fuels the fire of the plant sale's ferocity. The enthusiasts – many who rightfully cannot assure themselves of living to the next Extravaganza – take deep breaths, look straight ahead and philosophize *carpe diem* in their quest to buy early and often. After all, nothing like this will occur for two years. Money is not the object. Often space in the car or yard is the only limitation to the quest.

Susan knew all of this. She had both witnessed others being out of control and personally been on a quest at which hundreds upon hundreds of dollars left her pockets for the purchase of one plant. And,

she further knew the great hybrid created by she and her father would enchant all bromeliad enthusiasts. And, after the talk commenced, bids or purchases would meteorically eclipse previous big numbers and ultimately such a sale would become bromeliad lore discussed for years to come. Starting the sting by planting the seed was not the issue. When to plant the seed was the issue. More importantly, when would it strategically serve she and Miami-Dade was the only issue. And, after hours of silence with her imposed upon date, she knew her time was on; and, turned to Marlene and said, "It's show time."

Marlene nodded, and leaned to her right should to speak into a hidden mike and alerted the numerous others who were strolling the show's room with boxes of plants.

"Well life, so much for what you used to be." Susan thought and walked directly toward a familiar face with an infectious grin. "Goodbye." she thought to herself while fighting back the tears which she knew would ensue if she thought more about what was about to happen.

134.

Through the usual unmuzzled suspects, Joshua was able to learn almost all of the details for the evening's events. When getting almost every detail for every minute of the many hours of the night, Joshua learned that his name was omitted from any of the events. He wanted in. But, someone had intentionally left him out.

Timidly, Joshua walked up to Boss and asked, "Is there any way that I can become involved in the Extravaganza ordeal?"

Without looking up, Boss said a stern, but calm, "no."

"Have I done something to be kept out of this matter?" Joshua asked Boss, again timidly and without requiring response.

"No." Boss answered very calmly but in a manner which implied that the discussion would be better over now than continue for much longer.

Like a puppy dog told that he was bad, Joshua walked slowly back to is desk with head looking to the ground. He was confused. He was not invited to the ball. He was not wanted by the police. But, he thought, he was the belle of the ball in the eyes of Susan and her father. They had recruited him to inherit their discovery. And, since he was not

going to the Extravaganza as a Miami-Dade officer, he opted to go as a private citizen. As someone off duty, Joshua proceeded to call Susan to see if he could join her. But, then it dawned on him, after learning about the events of the night, private citizen Susan was entirely rapt with duties to Miami-Dade and could not be with Joshua. How strange, Susan who was not employed by Miami-Dade she was on duty, while Miami-Dade employee Joshua was of duty.

“I am still going.” Joshua said to himself. I belong there. Heck, I may become a name in the community after Susan and her father deliver the goods. I am possibly going to be involved in something larger than anything else that I have been involved with, or may ever be involved with, for the rest of my life.” Joshua pondered.

But, not being involved in the Miami-Dade affairs still bothered him. Being excluded without any reason bothered him more. The simple conversation with Boss did nothing but kindle the angst within him. He hoped to be either included or he hoped at least to have received an explanation which satisfied his curiosity. He had to call someone. He had to do something. As the thoughts sped along while processing through his mind, thoughts began evolving into headaches, then into auras, and finally becoming migraine headaches.

His emotional state was eroding with each minute of tension. The head pains within were gnawing away. Joshua was experiencing emotions which he normally would not – anger, angst, irritation, and fomentation. All derived from exclusion. But, exclusion is something he always encountered. Being who he was always included exclusion as his academic background of being the child among adults made him the odd ball. He was the person to whom the fingers pointed. He was never included in the study groups. He was always excluded. But, those events he could overcome with his studying prowess and deliver academic results which made him stand above the rest in the class. He ultimately could look to the others and derogate them for excluding him, after all he was the one they should have latched onto as opposed to excluded. But, the recent events with the Miami-Dade force excluding him from the Extravaganza were not something which he could overcome with performance. “Or could he?” he wondered, and then skipped back to his desk to commence the task of making the others pay for excluding him.

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 16-17, 2016
ANNUAL RARE PLANT AND SALE FOR BSSF
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, Florida



June 13-19 2016
Bromeliad Society International
World Bromeliad Conference
Houston, Texas USA
<http://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/>

R e g i s t r a t i o n :
http://www.bsi.org/new/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Registration_Form.pdf
O n l i n e R e g i s t r a t i o n :
http://www.bsi.org/bsi_info/wbc/



Westin Galleria Houston
5060 West Alabama Street
Houston, TX 77056

Note to the Membership:

Alan Herndon spoke about paperwork necessary for the show. He urged early submission due to the tight time schedule the Society faces this year.

If You Got'em, Donate'em Crystal or Give Donations for Awards

Anyone who has previously well deserved and won crystal from the Bromeliad Show is urged to recycle and give the same to Barbara Sparling who handles the awards for the show.

Anyone wanting to donate for awards needs to merely give Barbara an email or call.

