



BromeliAdvisory

Dec 2024

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

Directors:

Alex Bello, President
Tina Severson, Immediate Past President
Patty Gonzalez, Vice President
Samantha Jones, Treasurer
Maria Almodovar, Secretary
Sandy Roth, Director
Karen Bradley, Director
Denise Karman, Director
Lynn Gordon, Director

Committees:

Editor: Tina Severson
Advertising: Tina Severson
Webmaster: Bob Benaim
Door Prize: Alan Herndon
Hospitality: Denise Karman
Membership, Patty Gonzalez & Melody Ray
Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello
Special Events/ Refreshments: Sandy Roth
Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo
Field Trip: Tina Severson
FCBS Reps: Maureen & Richard Adelman

It's That Time of Year Again! Your Membership Counts!

Yes, folks, it's membership renewal season! We appreciate every one of our members, we need your membership fees to keep the show on the road (or should we say, keep the bromeliads blooming)! Our BSSF, Inc. is committed to bringing you exciting meetings and valuable learning experiences, so now's the time to renew.

Good news: your membership fees will stay the same until **December 31, 2024!** It's just \$25 for one person or \$35 for two at the same address. But wait—if you procrastinate and renew in January, it'll cost you an extra \$5! That's \$30 for one and \$40 for two. Don't let that happen!

To make it easy, you can click the links below to pay with a credit card. If you prefer the old-school method and need to pay by check, make sure to track down Patty Gonzalez at our next meeting. She's got your back! Let's keep this bromeliad party going!

Single Membership:

<https://checkout.square.site/buy/DRRBMLMKT5C6HKFHIK3VXOKZ>

Double Membership

<https://checkout.square.site/buy/T7SSVJJC5HMU7HJNYYZBNN6R>

Whether you're celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah (which coincides with Christmas this year), Kwanzaa, or another holiday, we send our warmest wishes for peace, joy, and good tidings to all. May this special season bring love, togetherness, and hope for you and your loved ones.

Wishing you a Happy New Year filled with health, happiness, and prosperity.



LET THE FESTIVITIES BEGIN!
BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF
SOUTH FLORIDA
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 7:15 PM

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN
JOIN US IN THE GARDEN HOUSE

POTLUCK DINNER AND DRINKS
BROMELIAD GIFT EXCHANGE

Please bring an unwrapped bromeliad for the gift exchange and an appetizer, side dish or salad to share. Main dish and desserts provided. Free for paid BSSF Members, \$10 for each Guest.

As you prepare for the gift exchange, consider selecting something you'd love to receive yourself. After all, everyone deserves to leave with a meaningful gift! Let's spread some holiday cheer by being generous and thoughtful with our presents.

'Tis the season to give and share in the joy of the holidays. We look forward to seeing what you bring!

Exciting News: New Board Members for BSSF, Inc.

We are thrilled to announce the results of our recent board election! After a successful vote, we welcome three new members to our Board of Directors, who will take office in January 2025. Please join us in supporting our dedicated volunteers as they step into their new roles:

- Vice President: Barbara Partagas**
- Director: Maureen Adelman**
- Director: Patty Gonzalez (who transitions from her previous role)**

We also want to express our heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the election and offered their support. Your involvement is crucial, and we'll continue to rely on you for future opportunities to contribute!

We would also like to take a moment to recognize the outstanding service of Denise Karman, who has served as Director for the past two years, and Karen Bradley, another dedicated Director. Both have been instrumental in our success, and while they will be taking a well-deserved break from the board in 2025, we know they will continue to support our mission behind the scenes.

These new additions to our board will join the existing team, and we'll update our member list in January. Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to BSSF, Inc. Together, we're making a difference!

President's Message:

As we look ahead to another fantastic year, I am excited to continue working with our dedicated Board of Directors as your President for 2025! We have an incredible lineup of speakers and fun activities planned. I'm especially looking forward to celebrating the holiday season with all of you. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making this past year such a great success! -*Alex Bello*



See Alex Bello if you are interested in doing the raffle table!



From Karina Motes:

A big thank you to BSSF for participating in The Rare Plant Festival, and special thanks to Tina Severson for helping to organize the members.

We are pleased to make a donation of \$325 to your society in honor of the following wonderful members:

- Maureen Adelman**
- Richard Adelman**
- LaEatrice Murray**
- Linda Pacun**
- Wayne Pacun**

Please take a moment at your next meeting to acknowledge and thank them for their generosity and support!

In case you missed it:

We had an *absolutely fantastic* auction this year, and what a success it was! A big thank you to everyone who came out to support the Bromeliad Society of South Florida. Most of us left with rare and amazing plants—just take a look at the photos to see how spectacular this event truly was. We were overwhelmed with the number of generous plant donations, which means our new year is looking bright and funded for some exciting meetings ahead. These events will not only educate but also keep things fun and, dare we say, a little wild.

A special shoutout to our President, Alex Bello and Auctioneer for running such a smooth and entertaining show. And of course, a huge thank you to everyone working behind the scenes—you know who you are, and we truly appreciate everything you do for our society. Hopefully, everyone snagged the plants they had their eye on!

Also, big thanks to all who brought food. We all know a bromeliad auction is best enjoyed with a side of snacks! Please enjoy the photos below and relive the fun.



Mike Michalski always brings the beautiful bromeliads to the table!



Maureen Adelman certainly has a knack for selecting and growing the best Tillandsias! Her smile says it all!





"Eileen Katsaras
appreciating the beauty of
the bromeliads!"





A big thank you to our talented team of creatives, Denise Karman and Sandy Roth, for crafting those amazing driftwood pieces. They truly outdid themselves! Some of us were lucky enough to win these beautiful works of art with our bids. Great job, Denise and Sandy!



"Justin Severson and Tony Almodovar, always working behind the scenes to support and assist our club."



Sylvia Betz and Eileen Katsaras, friends catching up while enjoying the bromeliad auction and admiring the beautiful plants.





It was wonderful to see our entire group gathered—what an amazing turnout! We were also thrilled to welcome Carl Bauer back after his

long battle with health issues. It's great to see him getting stronger, and we look forward to having him with us more often in the future!





I was lucky enough to catch Alan Herndon bringing in some of his stunning plants! Always working behind the scenes, Alan's contributions are greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generous donations!

Alex Bello brought boundless energy and excitement as he swiftly moved through our impressive collection of plants! If you weren't quick, you risked missing out on these stunning bromeliads! A special thanks also goes to our plant runner,



Justin Severson, who worked tirelessly to ensure every plant made it to the right table and number for everyone to take home. Your hustle and bustle all night were greatly appreciated, Justin!





Mark Your Calendars for our January 25th Garage Sale! More Info to Come!



Time to clear out those closets and save your treasures for our fabulous Garage Sale at Maureen Adelman's house! This event is always a blockbuster for our Bromeliad Society. Join us for some fun, meet new friends, and invite them to check out our club!

Got plants, junk, or clothes? Bring it all! Remember, one person's "junk" is another's botanical treasure—or at least a quirky conversation starter! Let's make it a memorable event!



Discover More About Cryptanthus: Visit Their Newly Renovated Website

For those interested in learning more about *Cryptanthus*, we're excited to announce the launch of their newly renovated website, now live and fully operational after a long hiatus. Check it out using the link below and explore all the fascinating information about this unique genus. Let's show them our support!

www.cryptanthussociety.net

In case you're wondering, *Cryptanthus* is a genus of flowering plants in the *Bromeliaceae* family, specifically within the *Bromelioideae* subfamily. The name *Cryptanthus* comes from the Greek words "kryptos," meaning "hidden," and "anthos," meaning "flower," reflecting the plant's distinctive, often concealed blossoms. Don't miss out on exploring the world of *Cryptanthus*—visit their site today!

Upcoming Community Events



Greater Miami Symphonic Band: Merry Sounds of the Season!

Next date: Sunday, December 22, 2024 | 03:00 PM



Click on the link for more info: <https://www.pinecrestgardens.org/Arts-Events/Events-Calendar/12.22.24.Greater-Miami-Symphonic-Band-Merry-Sounds-of-the-Season>

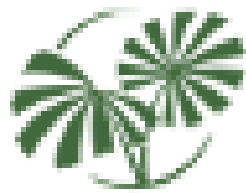
Nights of Lights

Friday, December 6 through Saturday, January 4

6 PM



Click on the link for more info: <https://www.pinecrestgardens.org/Arts-Events/Events-Calendar/Nights-of-Lights>



FAIRCHILD

TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN



FAIRCHILD'S NIGHT AT THE GARDEN

November 15 - January 12

Time: 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Dates Vary



A VERY MERRY GARDEN

Coming, 12/2/2024 - 1/5/2025

Daily, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

General admission included

From the Editor: Share Your Exciting Community Events!

Do you know about an upcoming community event that our members would enjoy? If so, we'd love to hear from you! Please send me the details, along with any photos or links, for inclusion in our upcoming Advisories.

While we are particularly interested in events related to botanical gardens, plants, and horticulture, we welcome submissions on any topic that might be of interest to our members. Whether it's a local workshop, garden tour, or any exciting community event, your input is always appreciated.

To ensure your event makes it into our next issue, please send the information to me at least a week before our meetings. I always strive to highlight events that I think our members will find exciting, but your contributions will make it even better!

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Tina Severson