



July 2023

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



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Bromeliad Society of South Florida

http://www.facebook.com/groups/BromeliadSSF/?bookmark_t=group



Facebook - Members
Bromeliad Society of South Florida

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Bromeliad-Society-of-South-Florida/84661684279>



FCBS Newsletter

<https://www.fcbs.org/newsletters/FCBS/2023/05-20223.pdf>

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- Hospitality: Elaine Mills
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- Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello
- Refreshments: Sandy Roth
- Field Trips:
- Community Service: Carl Bauer
- Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo

July 18, 2023 MEETING 7:30 PM

Corbin A

SPEAKER: "Our Members Share Their Gardens"

A Slide Show presented by Tina Severson

Food Donations Appreciated - Win the prize

Member Plant Sales OK

Silent Auction Plants OK

A PHOTO OF YOUR PLANT
MAY BE IN THIS ISSUE -
SEE "NOT ON THE HEAD
TABLE BUT BREATHTAKING
ON PAGE 3

THE EXTRAVAGANZA IS FUN!!

JULY 28-29 IN W. PALM BEACH

REGISTRATION \$175

MARRIOTT \$139/night

www.fcbsextravaganza.org

President's Message

I'm so excited about our next meeting and sharing everyone's beautiful garden photos they submitted for our slide presentation. We have some very creative people with green thumbs! If you didn't submit photos of your garden, we will probably be making this an annual thing and you will be able to do it the next time. Anyone that wants to bring in plants for our silent auction is welcome to do so. Also don't forget your food items since we will all enjoy a party! Invite your neighbors and friends, this will be an awesome meeting.

Tina Severson

EXTRAVAGANZA

June 30 was the deadline for reduced rate at the Marriott in W. Palm Beach. But the rate has been extended to 7/15

As of this week we have over 10 people attending. You can also go for the day Saturday to buy and see plants. For more info go to www.fcbsextravaganza.org

RAFFLE TICKETS

You spoke - we listened. Raffle table ticket prices have been adjusted to 5 tickets for \$5 with a \$5 minimum. This is more in line with other plant societies prices.

FOOD AT MEETINGS

We continue to need food donations for our meetings. Side dishes and desserts are a good choice. And you have a chance to win the food prize which is usually, you guessed it, a plant.

PHOTOS FROM THE 2019 EXTRAVAGANZA



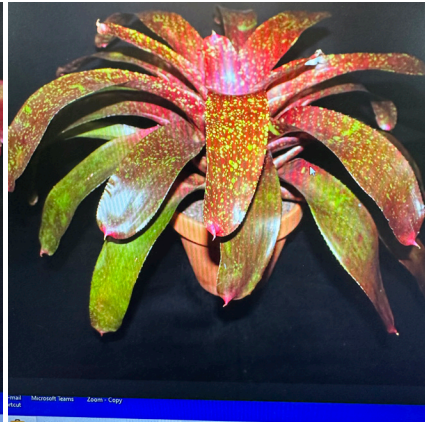
PLANTS GALORE

NOT ON THE HEAD TABLE BUT BREATHTAKING

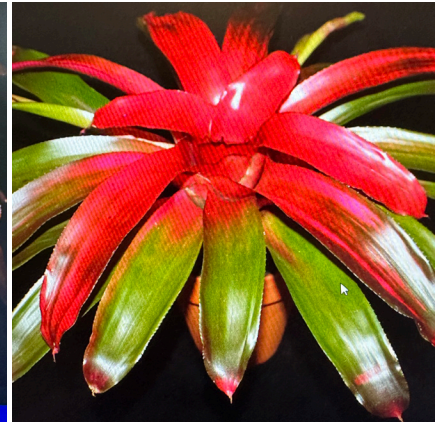
We truly have some talented gardeners/horticulturists in our society. There were approximately 700 photos taken at the show by our photographer. The quality of the photos was excellent - too excellent to store away. What follows are some photos of the plants which did not make it to the head table, but you would never know. Congratulations to all of the entrants.



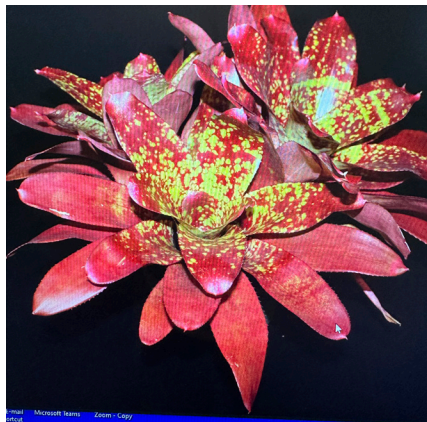
Neo. Correia-Araujai
Chris Pfeffer



Neo. 'Charm'
Tina Severson



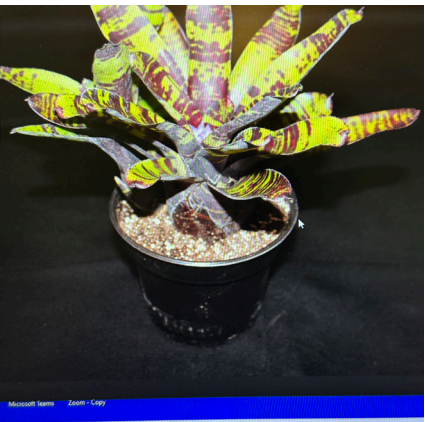
Neo. 'Puppy Love'
Tina Severson



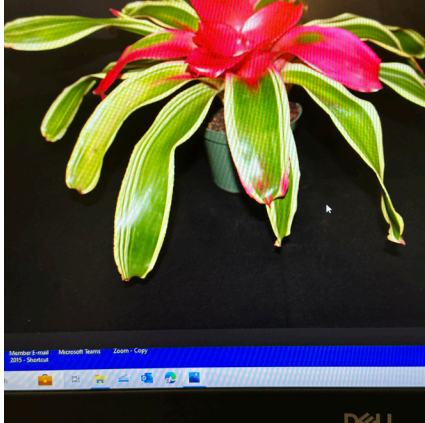
Barbara Partagas - Neo. Hybrid



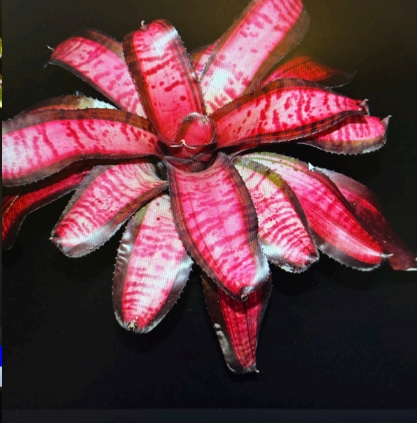
Alan Herndon - Neo. 'Savory
Truffle'



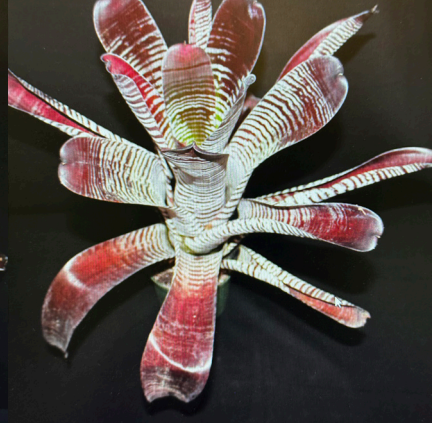
Alan Herndon - Neo. Cruenta



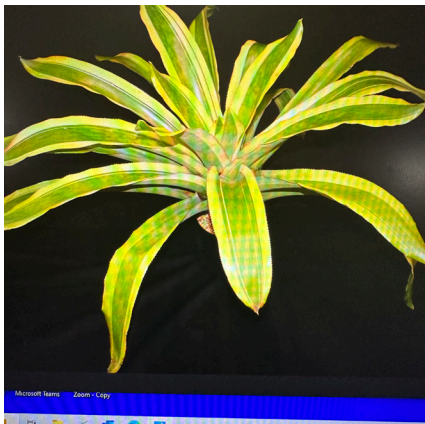
Neo. ? - Alex Bello



Neo. 'Pulsar' - Alex Bello



Ae. chantinii - Alan Herndon



Ae. mexicana - Ofelia Sorzano



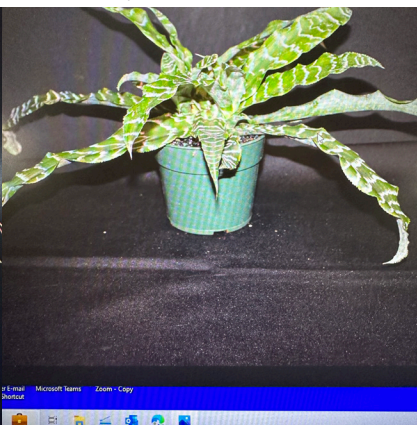
Till 'Curly Slim' - Ofelia Sorzano



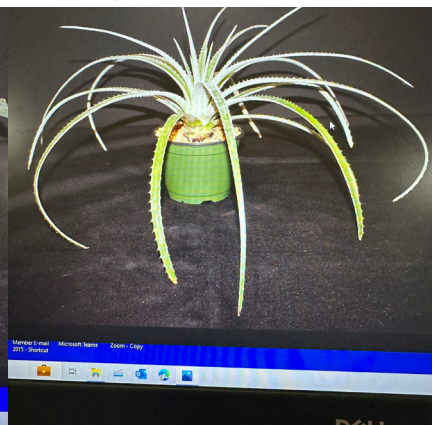
Neo. hybrid - Samantha Jones



X Sincorea 'Galactic Warrior' -
Maureen Adelman



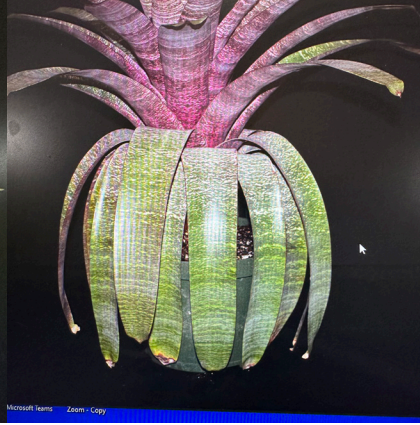
Crypt. 'Betty Ann Prevatt' -
Laura Coe



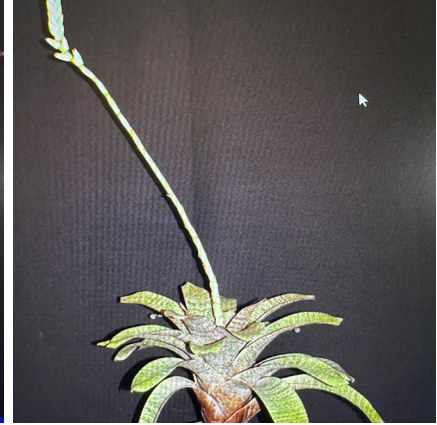
Hechtia extensis - Ofelia
Sorzano



Vr. 'Mint Julep' - Samantha Jones



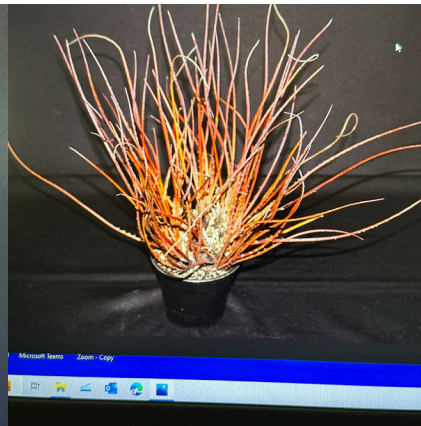
Vriesea - Barbara Partagas



Blooming Vr. hybrid - Alex Bello



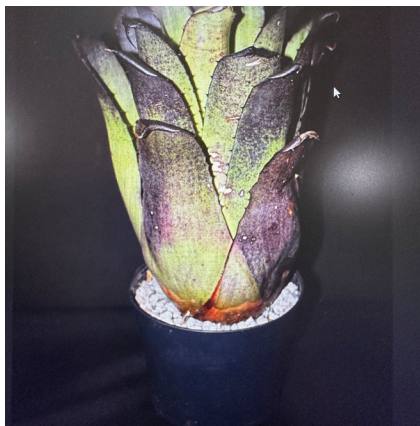
Acanthostachys - Ofelia Sorzano



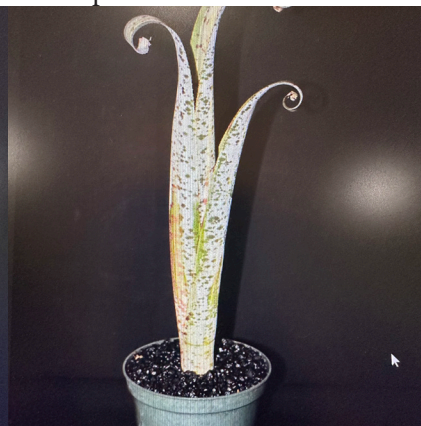
Acanthostachys pitcairnioides - Stephanie LaRusso



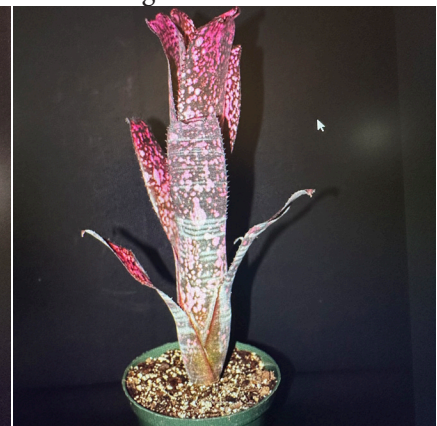
Till. bulbosa on driftwood - Chieng Manlee



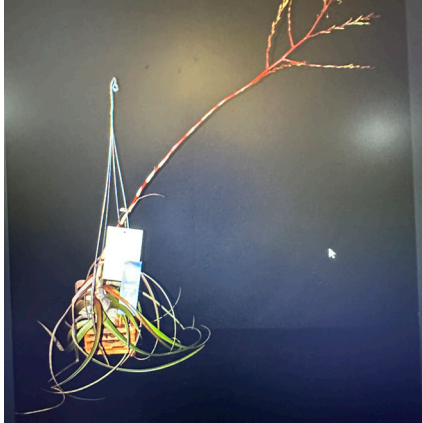
Hoh. edmundoi - Peter Kouchalacos



Ques. marmorata 'Rafael' - Barbara Partagas



Bill. 'Annibelle' - Chieng Manlee



Blooming Till. - Ofelia Sorzano



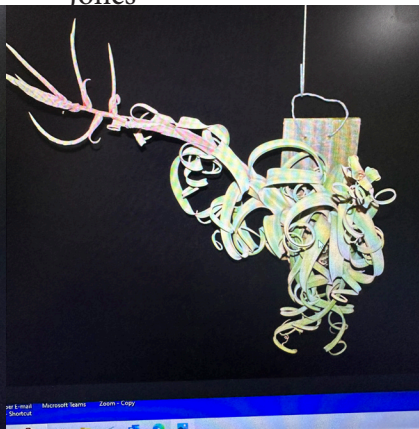
Till. Novackii - Samantha Jones



Gorgeous Till. - Unknown



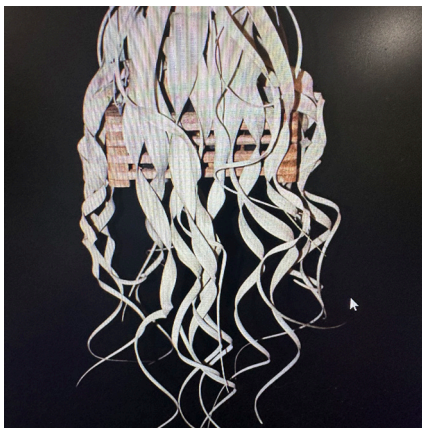
Artistic Arrangement - Patty Gonzalez



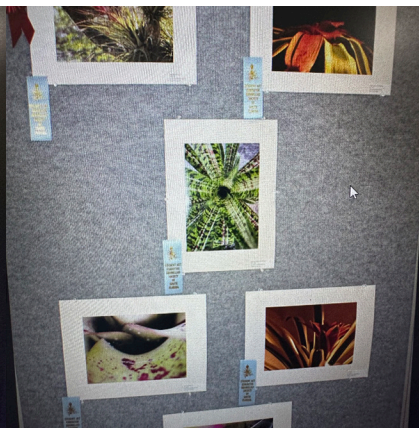
Till. 'Curly Slim' - Chris Pfeffer



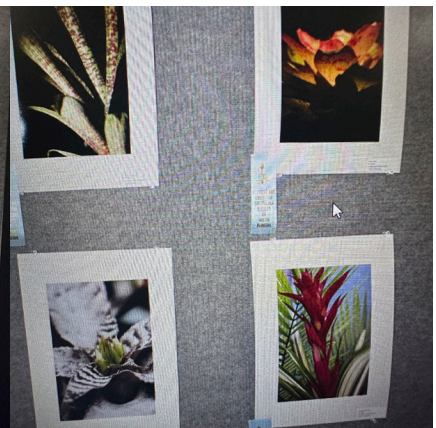
Till. ionantha - Unknown



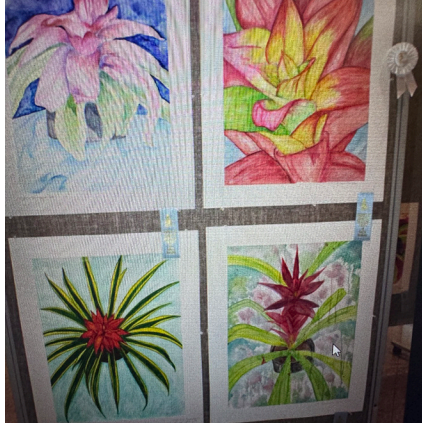
Till. xerographica - Chieng Manlee



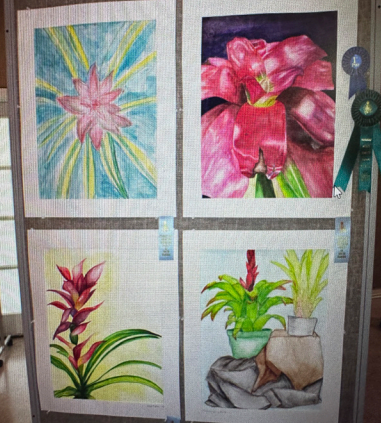
Student Photography



Student Photography



Student Art



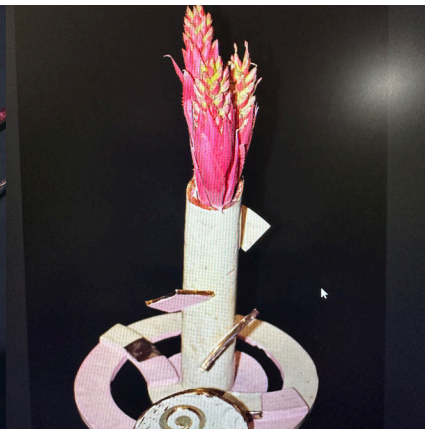
Student Art



Decorative Container - Chieng Manlee



Decorative Container - Ofelia Sorzano



Decorative Container - Sandy Roth



Decorative Container - Judy Kilburn



Artistic Arrangement - Chieng Manlee



Cut Inflorescence - Ofelia Sorzano



Cut Inflorescence - Patty Gonzalez

If yours was one of the 2 unidentified plants, let us know and we will publish a corrected version next month.

DEAR DR. BROM

Dear Dr. Brom: It's unbearably hot and we have already had a named tropical storm this season. I'm betting we get hit by a hurricane at some point. How do I best protect my plants in case of hurricane?

We give instructions every year for hurricane preparedness, both for our home and garden but we all seem to forget at least some of these instructions. My theory for this is the old saying - out of sight, out of mind. But now it's time to worry again so here goes. There are a lot of things you can do for your plants before, during and after the storm.

BEFORE THE STORM: Give yourself lots of time to prepare. Remember you have to prepare your house and your family in addition to your plants. Know when the storm is scheduled to hit and plan backward from there. A hurricane watch means a hurricane is possible 48 hours later. A hurricane warning means a hurricane is expected in 36 hours.

Bring in hanging pots and baskets and any other pots on the ground. Also take in pots from your shade house as well as any gnomes or garden decorations. They are all possible projectiles. These can be stored in a garage, shed, bathtub or porch on the side away from the storm. And don't forget to bring in your empty pots.

Plants growing on trees can be secured with fishing line.

If you cannot move a pot as it is too large, turn it on its side. The lower to the ground a plant is, the less damage. You could also tie it to a fence or tree. Use nylon rope, not string.

If you have a hedge or heavy landscaping around your home's foundation, the area between this hedge and your home is the perfect hiding place for plants you cannot bring inside. Be sure to group them closely together to secure them. Place the more delicate plants in the middle.

Plants that are in ground are less prone to damage than hanging pots but are more in danger from storm surge. If you are smart enough to have planted your bromeliads in pots in the ground, just lift them out and bring them inside.

Do not tarp your plants. The tarp will fill with water and crush your plants. Or it will tear and your plants will be inundated anyway.

Do not withhold water beforehand. When plants dry and then experience a heavy rain the plant will be stressed. You can withhold water the day before the storm, though.

Turn off irrigation systems and if possible the main water valve. You won't need the water right away and if a tree falls on a water pipe you won't add to the flooding.

Remove any weak, damaged or diseased plants. They are a storm hazard.

Any pesticides or sprays you use on your plants need to be stored up high inside to minimize the risk of a big spill.

Check the storm drains on your street. They won't necessarily be in your yard. Make sure they are free of any grass clippings or debris. If the drains are clear that is less time your plants (and grass) have to sit in salty water.

Fill a few bottles with water for your plants. You may not have water after the storm and your plants outside may need to be flushed out.

Opinions are divided on whether to leave mulch or remove it. Removing mulch before the storm can help with drainage afterward but mulching can also help anchor a plant during a storm. But if you have time to remove or add mulch before a hurricane you have too much time on your hands.

Finally, take a photo of your yard and patio before the storm so that you will know right away where to place your plants,

DURING THE STORM: If you have hurricane rated windows and doors, you can now watch the storm. This can be a little scary. What if you see your prized *Alcantarea odorata* uprooted and tumbling down the street? What do you do? "I go and and get it. I paid good money for that dang plant!" NO. NO. NO. DO NOT GO OUT IN THE STORM, EVEN THE EYE. Think how much fun you will have going to nurseries afterward to replace it. You will be having this fun because you are still alive. Instead, stay inside during the storm and be bored like the rest of us.

AFTER THE STORM: Expect a little damage to your plants. Hurricane rain average is 3 to 10 inches in 24 to 48 hours. First make sure it is safe to go outside. Then discard debris. Pull up fallen plants and tamp down the soil around them. Stake if needed. Some plants may look drowned or impossibly damaged. Give them a chance and nature may take care of them. Watch for signs of revival.

Remove any damage from your plants that remained outside. Your plant should use all its energy to maintain the healthy parts. Also damaged areas are an entry point for disease and insects. Watch for powdery mildew and fungus in the garden. Check plants daily and treat if needed.

Water the plants that remained outside to flush out any salts deposited by the storm. Slowly return the plants kept inside during the storm using the photos you took beforehand.

Finally, check the storm drains on your street which may be clogged with storm debris. The sooner the standing stormwater drains away, the better it is for your plants.

LONG-TERM PLANNING: If you plant in clusters the roots can intertwine which helps to anchor the plant. Also think about planting a windbreak. This is a group of hedges or densely planted trees. You plant it where you usually get strong winds and it lessens the damage. In Hurricane Andrew's case, that would have been the north side of the yard at the property line. A windbreak was planned and planted at Fairchild back in 1938 by its landscape architect, William Lyman Phillips, to protect the Garden's rare plants from the winds coming from the north.

Finally, you might print out this article and place it with your hurricane supplies for quick and easy reference.

Sources: www.tcpalms.com
YouTube, Florida Vegetable Gardening
YouTube, Gardener Scott
NewTimesBrowardPalmBeach.com
LivingColorGardenCenter.com
BobVila.com
[Gardening Solutions.ifas.edu/hurricane landscaping](http://GardeningSolutions.ifas.edu/hurricane-landscaping)

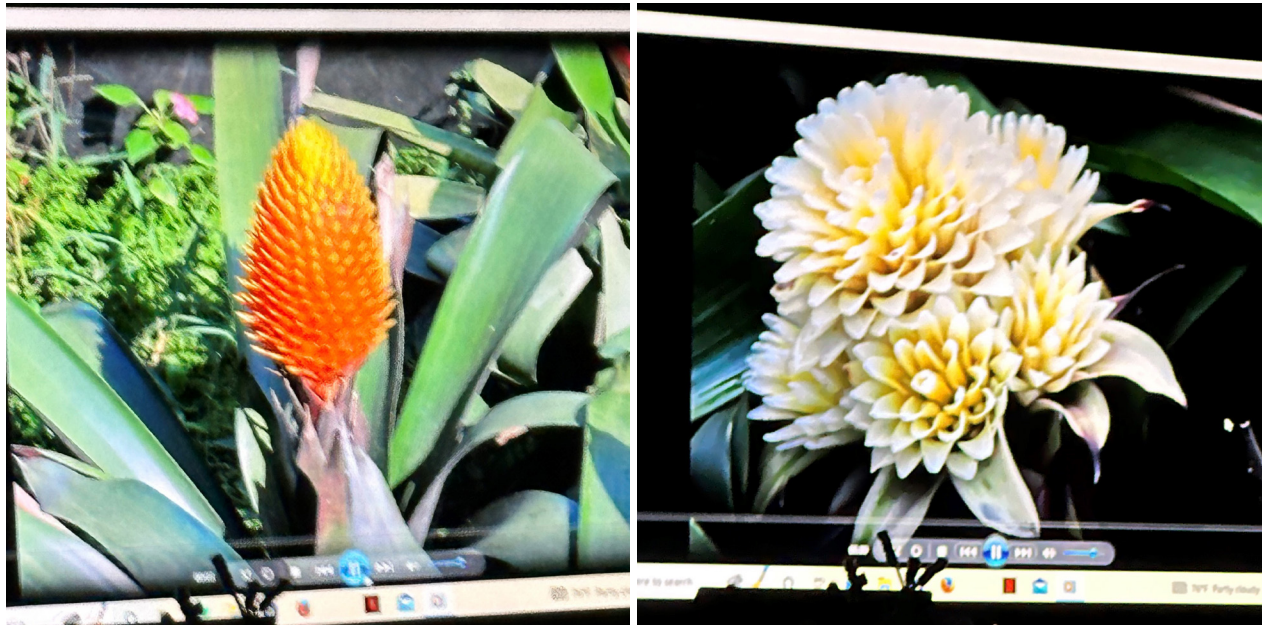


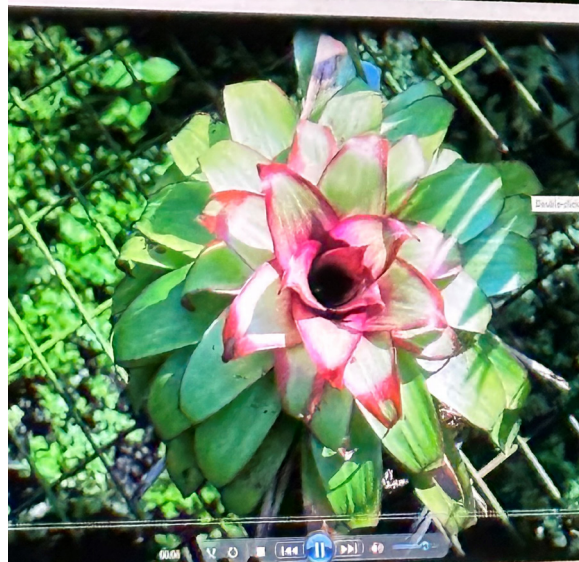
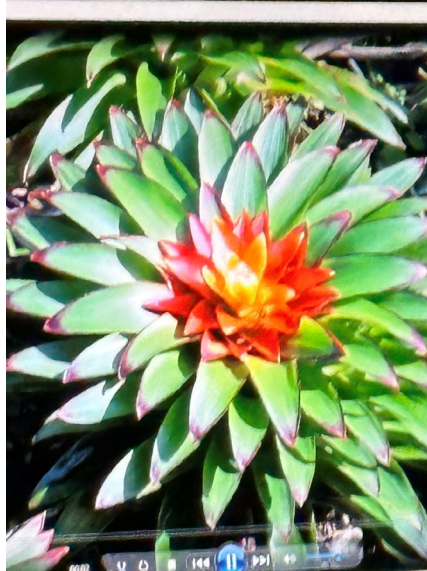
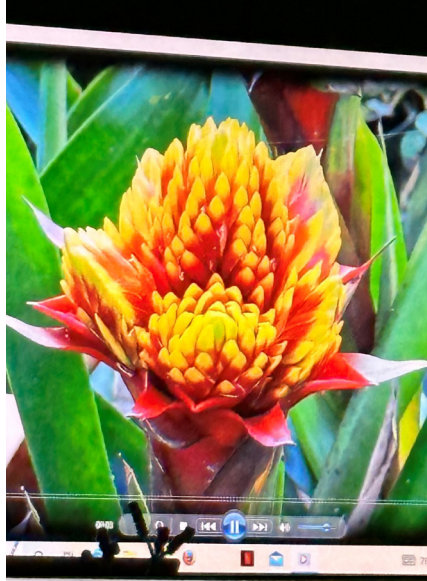
ABOUT LAST MONTH

Last month we were entertained and informed by Mike Michalski, who presented a slide show of his trip to Costa Rica and Chester Skotak's nursery, Duraflor. The trip took place in the innocent pre-Covid days. Chester, considered the finest hybridizer in the world, is retiring this year. His nursery is huge but unfortunately his plants cannot be brought back to the U.S. without a permit.

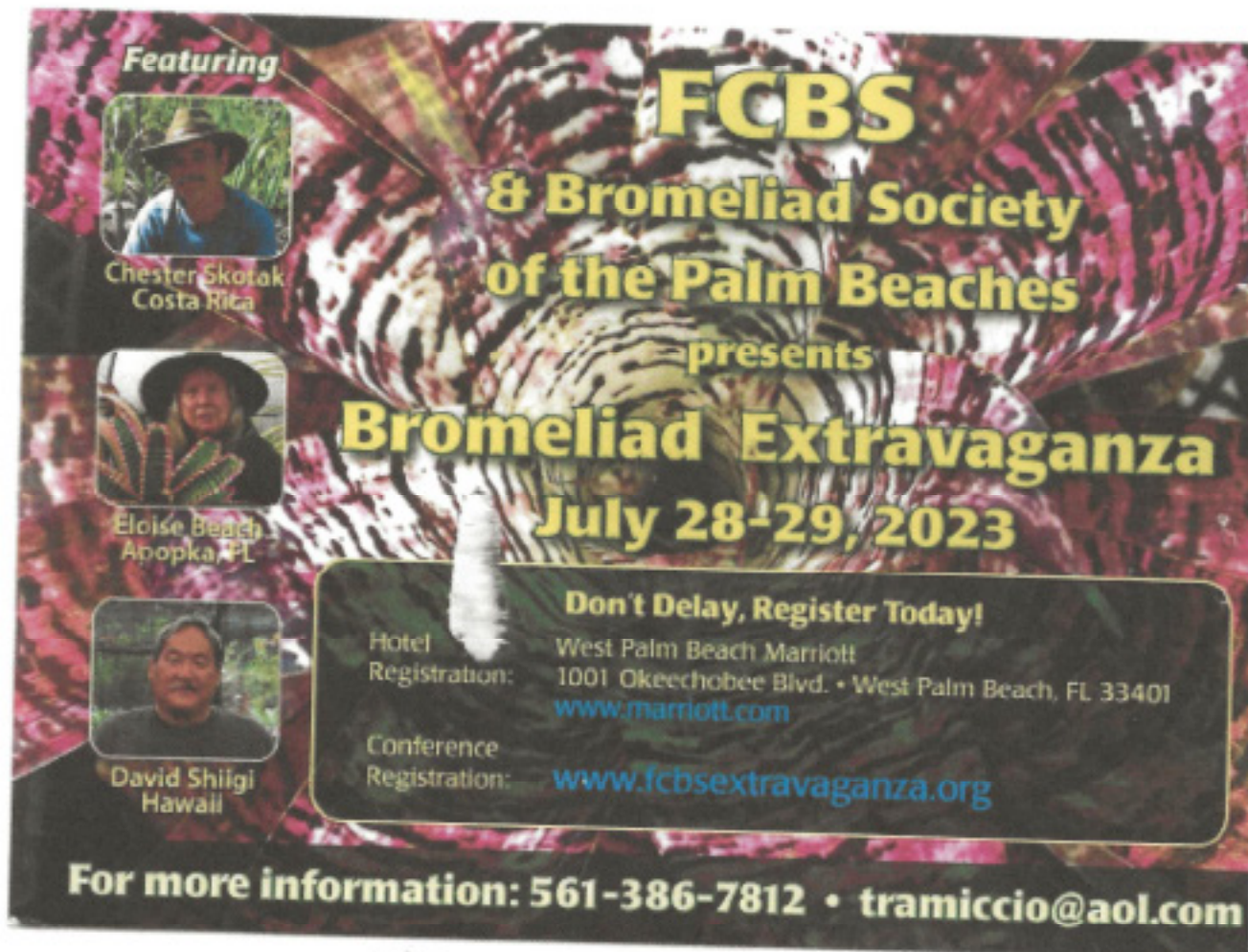
After retirement, Chester will remain in his home but the hybridizing will cease. His biggest hybridizing project is his pineapples which come in different colors. He has worked with Dole Foods. His plants sell for hundreds of dollars. He used to sell to Tropiflora and Michael Kiehl's nursery but now only sells to Eloise Beach in the U.S. He also sells to the Netherlands. He does not name his bromeliads but lets Eloise do the honors.

Chester does not wait for his plants to flower. He forces them to bloom so he can hybridize on his own timeline. And he states Thailand is catching up in the hybridizing business. Chester is speaking, possibly for the last time, at the Extravaganza coming up July 28 and 29 in West Palm Beach. Following are some of his amazing hybrids.








THE EXTRAVAGANZA IS COMING



Featuring


Chester Skotak
Costa Rica


Eloise Beach
Apopka, FL


David Shiigi
Hawaii

FCBS
& Bromeliad Society
of the Palm Beaches
presents
Bromeliad Extravaganza
July 28-29, 2023

Don't Delay, Register Today!

Hotel Registration: West Palm Beach Marriott
1001 Okeechobee Blvd. • West Palm Beach, FL 33401
www.marriott.com

Conference Registration: www.fcbsextravaganza.org

For more information: 561-386-7812 • tramiccio@aol.com

Undoubtedly, many of you have received this save the date card from FCBS. The weekend promises to be a fun one. There is a Friday night BBQ followed by a registrant plant sale from 7:30 to 9:30pm. On Saturday there are afternoon lectures including what is billed as Chester Skotak's final lecture. The Saturday night banquet includes a live auction and a silent auction. On Sunday there is an optional \$25 Garden Tour and Brunch. Registration is \$150 by April 30, \$175 after May 1. Rooms at the Marriott are \$139 until June 30. Parking is \$8/day. You can register online. This Extravaganza is also close to home. Mark your calendars and plan ahead!

SILENT AUCTION AND MEMBER PLANT SALE RULES

We now have unlimited silent auction plant sales. You will be paid 50% of the sale price and BSSF will receive 50%.

We will defer to our speakers for member plant sales when we have a speaker bringing plants. We will have no member plant sales on these occasions. This will give our speakers who travel here and pack up their plants a fair chance to sell their plants. When we do have member plants sales you will be paid 50% of the sale price.

To participate in member plant sales, please contact Alex Bello (bellotropicals@yahoo.com) or 239 223 6155 to schedule your sale so that we are not overrun with plants.

We appreciate your cooperation so that there will be no hard feelings if members bring plants and are turned away because we have a speaker who brought plants to sell.

SILENT AUCTION: Rene Izquierdo
(rcizquierdo@bellsouth.net)
305 282 9333

MEMBER PLANT SALES:
Alex Bello (bellotropicals @
yahoo.com)
239 223 6155

UPCOMING EVENTS

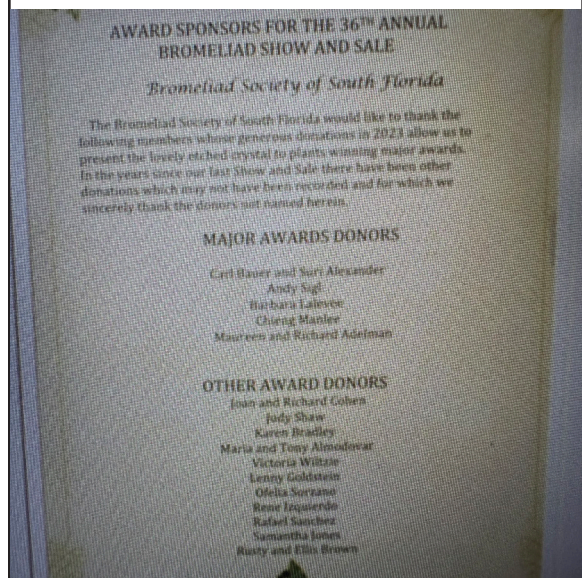
FCBS Extravaganza - W. Palm Beach
July 28-29

Mounts Botanical Garden -
Summer Plantapalooza - September 16 & 17

Fall Plantapalooza - November 4 & 5

RAFFLE TABLE RULES

Raffle table tickets are now 5 for \$5.00 with a \$5.00 minimum. Still a bargain! Donations to the raffle table are greatly appreciated. You can also make 50% on the plants you bring.



BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
BSSF. INC.

2023 MEMBERSHIP FOR NEW MEMBERS ___ AND RENEWAL___

Please print names: (Couples include both names)

ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ ADD'L PHONE _____

Year Joined BSSF: _____

Referred by: _____

E MAIL (you will not receive a newsletter without an email) _____

PLEASE HIGHLIGHT ANY INFORMATION ABOVE THAT IS DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR

Please create my membership in BSSF, Inc. for the period of March 1, 2023 to February 28, 2024.

Check the category: Single membership _____ \$25.00

 Dual membership _____ \$35.00

Dual members enjoy all the privileges of active membership, but receive only one copy of the Bromeliadvisory.

Dues must be received by March 1, 2023 in order for you to be included in the BSSF 2023 Roster. All fees are non refundable.

Please mail completed form and check payable to BSSF, Inc. to:
Patti Gonzalez

10565 SW 109 St., Miami, FL 33176

Or email this form to:

pgonza7782@aol.com

You can pay up to 5 years at the rates above