



BromeliAdvisory

June 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: Denice Karmen
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

Bromeliad Meeting

June 18, 2024, Next Meeting 7:15 PM Corbin A (our normal location)

(No Member Sales Plants Allowed this month, Silent Auction will be allowed, Food donations welcomed and appreciated, raffle ticket given to those who bring in food)

About Our Speaker



Chip Jones pictured at the World Conference in West Palm Beach last month with Major award-winning Bromeliad

We welcome Chip back to our next meeting on “Growing Bromeliads Better.” Chip Jones has been landscaping and growing plants since childhood. As a former member of BSSF, he entered plants and won many awards at our annual shows. He lives in Moore Haven and owns Jones Landscape Nursery. He will be selling his bromeliads at our next meeting!

BSSF, INC Logo

Time for a change! Let's clarify, in our Feb 2024 meeting Alex Bello brought this to our membership to bring in ideas for modernizing a logo.

We took a vote, and the majority wanted a change and we said we would consider the options.

As a reminder, nothing will be decided without a final vote once we have some entries submitted. All your input will be considered in this change. We want to keep the integrity of what our club represents as a society. We also want it to reflect what South FL Bromeliads look like. We just need to make a decision on something that is an actual logo and isn't **blurry** that has our nonprofit and website name on it, which is **BSSF, INC.**

We need something that can be used on tags, ribbons, crystal etc. and digital on our website and advisory and any other digital advertising.

If you have the talent to create a logo, we want to see it. We will be bringing the logos to the general meeting to decide on the final one in the next few months. Please make it a digital logo.

(Digital logos are logos that are designed to be viewed and interacted with online website. As companies see their clients shift toward digital, they should consider implementing a digital logo.)

This is for example purpose only:



President's Message:

“The dog days of summer have arrived earlier than expected and this heat is tough!! I hope everyone is looking forward to Summer and enjoying time with family and friends!! Make sure you check your bromeliads because of this intense sun and give them more shade!! Folks come to the meetings and engage with our members and speakers. We always look forward to having you guys come and say hello!! See ya next week :-)”

- Alex Bello

Alex Bello at our BSSF, INC Show & Sale April 2024



Alex Bello & Chester Skotak at the BSI World Conference May 2024



BSI World Conference May 2024, Alex Bello, Chip Jones, Show Chairman, Tom Ramiccio, & Chester Skotak



BSSF INC Scholarship Recipient

On May 21, 2024 the Bromeliad Society of South FL presented the 2nd Nat de Leon Memorial Scholarship to Miss Emiliana Nunez-Montas of Biotech Magnet High School at Fairchild Garden. Miss Montas, along with her cohorts, has been studying seed counts of *Tillandsia utriculata* this year. Their research culminated in the Student Symposium at Fairchild on May 21, 2024 where all students at the magnet presented their groundwork. Emiliana was very thankful for the award. She has not yet decided her college of choice but is leaning toward a biology major at present. The student presentations at the Symposium were impressive and more on a college level. It was hard to believe these were high school students standing on a stage giving their power point presentations.



Discussion

Our average seed count per *T. utriculata* this year was very similar to past BioTECH years, gestating towards 170 seeds.

	BioTECH 2023-2024	BioTECH 2022-2023	Benne
Mean number of seeds/fruit	170.8 (n=20)	170.4 (n=15)	79.1 (n=15)
Mean length of cone (mm)	34.7 (n=400)	23.25 (n=148)	27.8 (n=148)
Mean length of seed (mm)	2.71 (n=400)	2.82 (n=148)	N/A
Mean mass of seed (mg)	0.716 (n=400)	N/A	0.73 (n=148)



Thank you to Maureen Adelman for presenting the scholarship on our behalf



BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Bromeliad World Conference Show Photos May 22-25 in WPB, FL

Alan Herndon & Stephanie LaRusso



Winning Artwork by Stephanie LaRusso



Peter Kouchalakos



Patty Gonzalez (middle) in T-shirt designed by artist Steven Littlefield



Mike Michalski enjoying the Brazilian Dancers

Thinking of our **Director Lynn Gordon** during this difficult time. Lynn has been a blessing to us at our meetings and on our board. She volunteers every chance she gets. She helped so much at our last Show and Sale. We thank you for all that you have done for us. We wish you much comfort for your loss. Please see information below about the passing of her beloved partner.

Joseph Frank Shenouda

November 30, 1944 - May 1, 2024



Joseph Frank Shenouda, 79, of Hollywood, passed away suddenly on May 1, 2024. Joseph “Joe” was born on November 30, 1944 to Margaret and Fayez Shenouda in NYC. Between the ages of one and six, Joe’s family lived in Cairo, his Coptic Egyptian father's homeland. Back in the USA, during his high school years at Newton H.S. in Queens, Joe became part of a 60's Doo-wop singing group, whose members remained life-long friends. After graduating from high school, Joe enlisted in the Air Force during the Vietnam War. Following his discharge, he traveled throughout Asia and the Middle East before returning to live in NYC, where he raised his daughter, Vanya.

Later in life, Joe moved to Florida where he met Lynn. He had a successful career as a Long-Term Care Insurance agent while still using his abilities in both writing and music. In his early 70's and until his recent death, he studied piano, enjoyed his daily walks at the beach, read science fiction, and rooted for the Miami Dolphins. Joe was a charming, funny, thoughtful and a kind soul who was loved by all and is now deeply missed.

Joe is survived by life partner Lynn Gordon; sister Lisa Koslow and grandchildren Caleb and Jagger. Joseph was predeceased by daughter Vanya Levesque. His family will celebrate his life privately.

In Case You Missed It-By Tina Severson

Some of us get into the Bromeliad Society for the love of plants. However, if you are like me, I originally got into our BSSF, Inc because of needing a social outlet that wasn't work related and fun.

So, Bingo for me is one of those events I look forward to every year. I have been drinking the Kool-Aid over the years and love bromeliads! Everyone loves to win, and I dare say most did and brought home Bromeliads. Sandy Mora Roth is an expert at knowing how to run the game. She is literally a Bingo Professional! When I asked Sandy how you know Bingo so well, she said, "I used to go to the Miccosukee to play Bingo." Not only did she bring food, but she brought in all the left-over plants that she took care of after our Show & Sale from our Member sales table. Thank you to all the others that brought in food and plants to donate for our game also. We filled 4 tables with numerous varieties of Bromeliads for everyone to win. (photos below)

Vice President, Patty Gonzalez ran our meeting very smoothly since our President, Alex Bello was away setting up for the World Conference. She thanked everyone involved with our April Show & Sale. She also asked our several new members that joined to introduce themselves. We welcomed Silvia Balsinde and Sophia Balsinde Casales and Charbel Abud and Elaine Gonzalez to their first meeting and Bingo game. Prior to our meeting we also had new member Christian Campo who works for Fairchild and was helping at the gate come introduce himself, but he was unable to attend because of be on duty. All our new members left with numerous plants along with our veteran members!

Fairchild moved us to the Arts Center just for this month and it was my first time being there and wow what a beautiful room! Nicholas Ladas and Amy Padoff were there to make sure we had everything we needed. Our new member Christian Campo guided us to our location for the night. When leaving it was well lit up and everything went very smoothly. Those of us who attended left very happy.



Vice President, Patty Gonzalez ran our meeting



Director Sandy Mora Roth ran our Bingo



Bingo Table Prizes





Show & Tell brought in by Rene Izquierdo





Welcoming our New Members Sophia and Silvia



New Member Charbel on left. Elaine Mills, Meredith Mills, Barbara Partagas, Elaine Gonzalez, Maureen Adelman, Elizabeth Harvey & Nick Katsaras

Upcoming Community Events

USDA Annual Community Day - Sat. 6/29/24, 10AM-3PM

JOIN THE FRIENDS OF CHAPMAN FIELD FOR
COMMUNITY DAY

AT THE USDA AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
STATION – 13601 Old Cutler Road

((IMPORTANT: Enter at the North entrance off Deering Bay Drive))

SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! RAIN OR SHINE!

TRAM TOURS OF THE 200 ACRES OF SCIENTIFICALLY
CURATED TREES, PALMS & ORNAMENTALS.

- WALKING TOURS
- EXHIBITS, EXPERIMENTS & DEMONSTRATIONS TO EDUCATE AND INSPIRE EVERYONE.
- FREE PLANTS WILL BE GIVEN OUT AS SUPPLIES LAST
- FOOD AND VARIOUS PLANT-RELATED VENDORS*

The Chapman Field USDA Agricultural Research Station is home to a variety of related federal agencies. Join us for this rare opportunity to visit & explore the facility. Learn the aviation history of this property & the future of valuable horticultural & entomological (Bugs!) research conducted in our very own backyard! Bring your children and grandchildren!



Event Details

Mango Festival: A Celebration of the King of Tropical Fruit!

The **Mango Festival** returns to Fairchild. Bring your mango-loving family and friends and take your taste buds to the tropics for a weekend devoted to all things mango. **A 30-Year History of Bringing Mangos to South Florida**

Fairchild has been celebrating mangos during the Mango Festival for nearly 30 years. It's a weekend-long celebration of the sweet and delicious King of Tropical Fruit! Fairchild is home to The Tropical Fruit program and the world's largest mango collection. Our annual Mango Festival is a celebration of the more than 400 varieties of mangos in our prized collection, and it all culminates in a dazzling weekend filled with mango madness.

Click on the link for more details:
<https://fbg.ticketapp.org/portal/product/67>