



March 2008
BSSF OFFICERS 2008

President Karl Green
VP Peter Kouchalakos
Sec. Peggy Fisher
Treas. Robert Meyer

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Sandy Roth, Past President
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Alan Herndon '08-'09
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Editors

Moyna Prince
Robert C Meyer

Door Prize: Alan Herndon
Education: Nat DeLeon
Hospitality: Elaine Mills
Library: Sandy Roth
Membership: Moyna Prince
Member Plant Sales: Anthony Arbelaez
Raffle: Peter & Clara Kouchalakos
Refreshments: Patty Gonzalez
Photos: Michael Schmale

What	Who
Sales Table	Antonio Arbelaez

MARCH 4, 2008 , 7:30 PM

SPEAKER: BINGO with Mike Michalski
RAFFLE: Karl Green
FOOD TABLE: Joy von Wald, Ofelia Sorzano, Lynne Fieber and Maricela Castro

Front Page Names

Over the years, you have seen many of the names on the front page repeat themselves year after year. This cannot continue endlessly, as health, travail or other issues arise which interrupt service to the organization.

One of the easiest methods of becoming involved is becoming engaged in the Annual Show. For a mere few hours of one week of the year, you are part of the core. Part of the core of what many describe to be the best annual show of the state. So reach out to any of the names you see on this front page, and become a part of this organization's organization. You'll have fun. If you do not believe me, ask why certain people have been so actively involved for so many years. . . decades?

WANT TO GET INVOLVED – HERE IS LIST OF THE SHOW'S COMMITTEES:

Art/Artistic; Award Sponsors; Awards; Catering; Classification; Clerks; Commercial Sales; Hospitality; Information Table; Judges; Photography; Placement; Plant Holding; Publicity; Sales (Money); Schedule; Show Booklet; Staging; and Vendors.

JOIN EARLY. JOIN OFTEN. Eat Sandy's Food.

TILLANDSIA TIPS
(Repeat from Feb)

(This article, by Bea Hanson of New Zealand, originally appeared in the July/August edition of Bromeleter.)

Here are a few tips on growing Tillandsias that were gleaned from here and there.

(a) Don't mount a blooming plant. Cut off the bloom or mount before one appears. When a bromeliad comes into bloom, its roots cease to grow and the declining plant's remaining vigor is confined to producing seeds and offsets. Logical when you come to think of it.

(b) Select young plants with root growth in progress. This will give quicker results but any young plant that is going to root anyway, will do so with good air circulation, good light and a good watering and fertilizer program.

(c) Beware of any treated wood. This is a killer. Salt-water driftwood seems to have no adverse effect, but wash well with clear water just to be on the safe side. I leave mine out in the rain until it is time to use it, then bring it in and let it dry.

(d) If there are roots on the plant, turn the roots toward the mount and glue or staple on. Glue does not damage the roots. If you happen to have a glue gun and are using 'hot glue,' if it burns your finger it will also burn the plant's bottom.

(e) Always be sure plants are firmly fixed on wood, etc. If they move about, roots take a lot longer to appear.

(f) If you are not keen on using glue, you can bore two small holes and thread thin plastic-coated wire (not copper) through, place plant inside the loop and fasten tightly at the back of the mount. For some heavier Tillandsias, I have used both glue and wire to be sure that they are firm.

(g) Change positions of your Tillandsias by all means, but when you have the ideal one do leave the plant there. If you keep changing them about, the poor things begin to wonder what they should do next.

(h) Speaking from experience. When you at last manage to get a small clump of Tillandsias, don't let people try and get pieces from you. I did this years ago and now realize that if I had been firm I would have had some really super clumps today!

In case you missed it

Ken Marks came and gave a packed room his slide show of the explorations of bromeliads in the wilds of Angel Falls area of Venezuela. At 979 meters, this impressive nature's marvel is an almost meticulously unaffected natural wonder because of the harsh conditions to reach and see the phenomenal surging waters. Pictures of the stresses and strains to obtain access to this extremely remote area of the world evidence why this region remains as it did thousands of years ago.

The flora was vividly shown to us by the always-impressive photography of Marks. Stills of numerous

bromeliads and orchids made the plants jump out, especially those with deep ebony backgrounds to allow the flower's color to more impressively emit nature's botanical magnificence. Many of the black backgrounds, we learned, were not by backdrop, but because the seemingly normal-sized plants richly detailed by the photographs are actually miniature plants, some unseen to the untrained eye. Marks explained that a number of the brilliantly colored orchids were smaller than a dime or nickle.

Heat (he went in the winter) and humidity (rain) seemed omnipresently oppressive. And, older bones and limbs appreciated his efforts to give us the opportunity to see what our bodies would otherwise prohibit. Pleasure from the seats of FTBG's Corbin Room seemed more practical than living through the rustic confines provided to Marks and experienced for a significant period of time (photos of his accommodations were shown as well).

In the future, if you miss a lecture, you may survive. But, be forewarned, if you miss a Ken Marks lecture, shame on you.



Photo from

[http://www.extremescience.com/Hfalls page.htm](http://www.extremescience.com/Hfalls/page.htm)

FACTOID: Angel Falls is on a "tepuy" (A flat top mountain ending with vertical walls). The fall is 979 meters high (around 3000 ft.), and is the highest waterfall in the world.

SHOW CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

By: *Robert Meyer*

Years ago, as a greenhorn discussing life with a greying star of the court, I asked if he was retiring soon. He told me that I listened wrongly, he was tired, not retired. I then asked him if he had recurring weariness. He acknowledged such. I then asked him if that did not mean he was continually retiring? Hmmm.

Lately, the stresses placed upon us make many members feel tired. Others recurringly experience this physical phenomenon. Hmmm.

This year's show will require some new blood. Some new energy. Something to alleviate the diminished strength of others.

Most of the show's leaders are willing to retire, or deliver their inextinguishable inexhaustible efforts – amen for that. But we need some small jobs replaced.

Placement is an annual chore which requires someone to pick up the plants Thursday April 17, 2008. You do not do this alone. But, we need many hands to get this done. More the merrier.

Awards is another simple job which needs replacement. **Donna Pearce** is leaving us and we need for someone to replace her. She will lead that person through this year, and after that it will require no more than 4-5 hours of your time. One day you order the awards. Another they are picked up (the awards maker has done this so long that he will show you the ropes) and then on Friday afternoon, you merely ascribe the medal, crystal or whatever to the judicially proclaimed winner.

Any young and strong-abled bodies can help **Alan Herndon** and crew in the task of setting up the stage etc.

In the end, you ask: what's in it for me? In exchange for your efforts, you can party heartily Friday night at **Sandy Roth's** home with other volunteers and the many judges. This year's theme? Western BBQ and kerchiefs and hats for the cowfolk.

In the words of Gov. Dean: "Yeehaw."

President's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you, the members of the BSSF, for helping to make last year such a success. In particular, I would like to thank Mike Michalski and Juan Espinosa for being our FCBS representatives. Kudos to the BSSF board members and officers who have finished their terms and those who continue to serve. It is with extreme gratitude that I welcome our new board members. I urge all our members to become active and support our society as much as possible.

On a different note, effective immediately, I regret that due to personal reasons, I find it necessary to resign as your president. I will continue to help and support our society to the best of my ability.

Karl Green

EDITOR'S NOTE: Karl is unquestionably one of the most invaluable members of the society. But, appropriately chosen priorities compel him to step aside and deliver the podium to others until affairs are improved. This act, as unfortunate to the society as most any could be, accurately reflects the unquestionable integrity of Karl. His absence will leave many members agreeing that the society will "be missing something." Although he did not say it, I quote Arnold Schwarzenegger on his behalf as he meant to end the message with "I'll be back."

FACTOID: Angel Falls were named after the American aviator who discovered them in 1937. Local indians already knew the falls and called them the *Churún Merú*.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We had a flood of new members in February and are delighted to welcome you all:

Cynthia Christoph
Marilyn Gresh and Andy Sigl
Jason Lopez
Michael O'Dea and Sheila Bishop-O'Dea
Gerry Roy
Chester Skotak

Membership chair Moyna Prince will order name tags for new members. If you have any preference on how the tag should read, call Moyna at 305-251-5289. If you've lost your tag, call Moyna or email her at MoynaP@bellsouth.net

Note: name tags are free the first time. There's a nominal charge for replacements.

2008 ROSTER

The Roster for this year is already in the works, and we need to get your membership checks ASAP if you want to be included. Dues are \$20 single, \$30 for two people living at the same address. Send your check, payable to BSSF, to 11220 SW 107 Ct., Miami, FL 33176. IF THERE IS A RED CHECK MARK NEXT TO YOUR NAME ON THE LABEL, WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR DUES!

We're encouraging members to sign up for the BROMELIADVISORY by email (no hard copy). On the membership renewal form, please write your email address clearly and indicate that you want to receive the newsletter by this method. You will then have the color version and save the society the postage.



Vriesea Hybrid

OPENING: As Karl is compelled to fulfill more important duties over the next several months, anyone wishing to become "more involved" should contact the Board or the editor.

Suggestion Box – Suggestion No. 1

Ken Marks' trek to the remote regions of Iguaza Falls should instill a verve to do something similar – as an organization.

Oh, no one is asking that thousands be paid to lumber through jungles, face dangerous predators, live off of bare provisions and clean with mountain cold water. Instead, we should meet as an organization, on a decidedly convenient Saturday, to visit a few of the homes where the plants are most enticing. Put the name of a few homes you can think of. At the end, we can meet at a house and have a BBQ, cook out or eat sandwiches.

Although this is absolutely anything but an original idea, it is an idea. Put your own, new or old, into the box so that we can provide more concepts to the members and others in the community.

Can You Think Ahead? EXTRAVAGANZA 2008

WHEN: August 29, 2008 Friday 1:00 – 6:00 PM , 7:00 PM Reception
August 30, 2008 Saturday 9:00 – 4:00 PM
Sales, seminars
6:30 PM Banquet and Auction
August 31, 208 Sunday 9:00 AM Bus
Tours

WHERE: 4400 W. Cypress Street
Tampa, FL 33607

CONTACT:
www.sheraton.com/tampaairport

All accommodations are room suites.
Room Rate \$99.00 Double or single.
Airport shuttle complimentary 24/7 on
the hour

TRIVIA: Angel Falls is the world's largest waterfall at 979 meters, followed by Tugela Falls (850 meters, Utigord Falls (800 meters), Mogen Falls (774 meters), Mutarazi Falls (762 meters)

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
2008 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

(PLEASE PRINT)

NAME(S) _____
(Couples - please include BOTH first names)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TEL _____ ADD'L. TEL. _____

EMAIL _____

Include email address in the roster? (Y/N) _____

Email BromeliAdvisory? (Y/N) _____ (You will not receive a hard copy.)

IF ANY OF THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS DIFFERENT FROM LAST YEAR, PLEASE HIGHLIGHT OR UNDERLINE

Please renew my(our) membership in the BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF SOUTH FLORIDA for the period of March 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009.

Check the category:

_____	Single membership	\$20.00
_____	Dual membership	\$30.00

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

Do you want to join the Bromeliad Society International? (Y/N) _____

If so, add \$30/single, \$35/dual, to your BSSF dues and we will do the rest for you. Membership includes the BSI Journal, issued bimonthly

(NOTE: New memberships only)

Make check payable to BSSF

DUES MUST BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2008, IN ORDER FOR YOU TO BE INCLUDED IN THE 2008 ROSTER

Please mail completed form and check to: Moyna Prince
11220 S.W. 107 Ct
Miami, FL. 33176-3902