

# **BromeliAdvisory**

Oct 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 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

In light of the cleanup many of you may be facing after Hurricane Milton, we have decided to move our Bromeliad Auction to November (See Flyer Under Community Events). Our thoughts are with everyone, especially those who were in the hurricane's direct path. We hope you and your families are safe.

We still invite you to join us for our meeting on Oct. 15, 2024, Tuesday night at 7:00 PM. Alex Bello and Sandy Roth will lead a fantastic hands-on program that you won't want to miss! We'll be meeting in Corbin A, and vendor sales and a silent auction are welcome.

Feel free to bring your plants and join us for an evening of food and fun! Your food donations are always appreciated, and raffle tickets will be given to all who participate.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### October Show & Tell: Billbergia!



This month's Show & Tell theme is Billbergia! We invite you to bring your beautiful bromeliads to share with the group. Feel free to ask our experts questions or share your own tips on how you grow these stunning plants and where you keep them.

Exciting news: Alex Bello will also be hosting the raffle table this month, featuring prizes that align with our Billbergia theme. Don't miss your chance of winning some fantastic bromeliad prizes! We look forward to hearing your insights and celebrating our love for Billbergia!

# It's not a great party meeting without delicious food and amazing plants!



Alex Bello Enjoying the Cuisine!



Justin & Tina Severson Happy to Be Out!



Sandy Roth and Rhonda Herndon are always willing to help our society!



New Member, Sophia Balsinde, Maureen Adelman, New Member, Silvia Balsinde, & Karen Rodriguez enjoying the evening! We love our new members!



George Katsaras, Justin Severson, Nick Katsaras & Eileen Katsaras Excited about the Fairchild Night Tour!

A big thank you to our Fairchild volunteer, Chris Rawls, President of the Eastern Airlines Orchid Club! He not only drove us through the gardens but also provided an insightful tour. Your support made our visit even more special!







## President's Message:

Hope you're all doing great. As we gear up and prepare for Fall and the dry season following Hurricane Milton, we've decided to move our auction to November. This change will give our members—and anyone who had to focus on protection and preparation—more time to get everything back in order.

We invite you to bring your friends and neighbors to the Bromeliad Society Auction!! It's a wonderful opportunity to connect and share our passion for bromeliads. - Alex Bello



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

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



## In Case You Missed It-Tina Severson

We had an amazing evening at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, where a little rain didn't dampen our spirits during the special evening tram rides. For those who attended, it was a wonderful opportunity to explore the beautiful gardens at night and hear the rich history of Fairchild.

Opened in the 1930s and named after the American botanist David Fairchild, who introduced over 20,000 plants—including mangos, alfalfa, nectarines, dates, horseradish, and bamboos—to the United States, the garden is a treasure of Miami's natural beauty.

Due to limited space on the trams, my husband, Justin Severson, and I had the delightful opportunity to join an unplanned walking tour with Maureen Adelman. We are incredibly fortunate to have Maureen as a member of our Bromeliad Society; her extensive knowledge of both plants and the garden's history is invaluable.

During our tour, Maureen shared fascinating insights about the landscape architect who designed Fairchild, William Lyman Phillips. Born in Massachusetts in 1885, Phillips earned his landscape architecture degree from Harvard in 1910 and began a long association with the renowned Olmsted Brothers firm. At just 25, he started working alongside Frederick Law Olmsted, one of America's most celebrated landscape architects.

Despite the limitations on tram capacity, our walking tour ensured that we didn't miss out on the experience. I'm grateful to Maureen for her guidance, and I'm sure everyone who participated in the tram rides had a fantastic evening.

Events like these make our Bromeliad Society truly special. We learn, connect, and have fun along the way. Enjoy the photos from our walking tour!









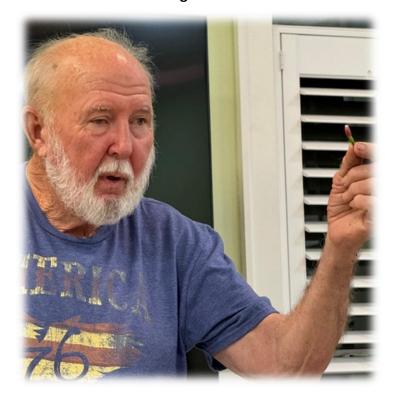


# **Show & Tell Photos From Sept Below**

To extract seeds from Bromeliads, follow these steps:

- 1. Identify the Right Time: Wait until the flowers have wilted and the seed pods have matured. This typically happens a few months after flowering.
- 2. Gather Materials: You'll need scissors or pruners, a small container for seeds, and possibly gloves to protect your hands from sharp leaves.
- 3. Cut the Seed Pods: Carefully cut the seed pods from the plant. Make sure to do this when they're dry to minimize damage to the seeds.
- 4. Open the Pods: Once collected, gently open the seed pods to release the seeds. This can often be done by hand, but scissors may help if they're stubborn.
- 5. Separate Seeds from Chaff: Gently separate the seeds from any surrounding material (like dried plant tissue). You can use a fine sieve or your fingers to do this.
- 6. Store the Seeds: Place the cleaned seeds in a labeled envelope or small container. Store them in a cool, dry place until you're ready to plant.
- 7. Planting: When you're ready to sow the seeds, use a well-draining potting mix and keep them moist but not soggy.

#### Mike Showing Us How To Get Seeds







Mike Michalski also shared some of his stunning Neoregalia varieties, showcasing their vibrant colors and unique foliage, which adds a lovely touch to any collection. If you're looking to expand your own collection, these tips can help you successfully harvest and propagate your Bromeliads!



# **Upcoming Community Events**





#### HAUNTED BIRDHOUSES

Coming October 2024! Daily, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

General admission included

Whoooo will join us for some haunted Halloween fun?

Migration has begun, and 13 haunted birdhouses have appeared in our garden! These unique birdhouses and creepy critters offer a fun and festive activity for the whole family to kick off the spooky season.

This thrilling hunt is the perfect wholesome treat for a spooktacular time.

- Collect your map at any Box Office. Participating in this adventure is as easy as 1-2-3. Simply collect your map at any Box Office, and you're all set. This adventure is FREE with admission. You can purchase admission to the Garden online or in person.
- **Follow the clues.** Each birdhouse and critter is represented on our map. Keep your eyes up for these fun and festive birdhouses.
- **Fill out the plot numbers on your adventure map.** Complete the map by writing in the plot numbers in their corresponding spot on the map.
- Turn your map into a designated mailbox. Before leaving the Garden, turn your completed map into a mailbox to win a family membership and join the Fairchild family, where you'll enjoy exclusive access to our events and discounts on future visits.
  - Drawing takes place on September 1, 2024

Take advantage of this magical adventure and many more! Click on the link for pricing: https://ftbg.ticketapp.org/portal/product/165



#### **ORCHIDS IN OCTOBER**

October 12 & 13

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

General admission included

#### Orchid lovers love Orchids in October!

There is no better way to spend a lovely South Florida autumn day than in the Garden surrounded by orchids. The weekend event features our favorite plant vendors and local artisans. Shop from the many orchid vendors, visit the National Orchid Garden and learn about the urban conservation program, The Million Orchid Project, which has already reintroduced over 500,000 native orchids in the South Florida.

And we have so many Garden adventures to enjoy, including spectacular butterflies at Wings of the Tropics, our exotic butterfly exhibit. Sit in the shade and watch your little ones run, play and explore at The Children's Garden, and cool down in the misty cloud forest of the only tropical rainforest in the continental U.S.!

#### 2024 RARE PLANT (AND ORCHID) FESTIVAL

#### October 18-20, 2024, 10 AM TO 5 PM

Located at the idyllic **Redland Fruit and Spice Park in South Dade**, the Rare Plant (and Orchid) Festival is a destination event for plant lovers of all kinds. Join the best plant growers in the world along with fellow avid rare plant and orchid fans for three days of pure plant mania at America's premier tropical plant and orchid event. Children under age 12 are free at this family-friendly event.



#### Thank You to Our Bromeliad Society Members!

If you volunteered for this event, you should have received an email from Karina Motes confirming your position. This is a fantastic fundraising opportunity for our Bromeliad Society, and we're grateful for your participation!

Click On Link for More Information:

https://www.rareplantfestival.com/



October 28, 2024, will be held in the Garden House at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. This meeting is the Annual Auction. The preview is at 7pm and the auction will begin promptly at 7:30pm.



Click on the link for more info: <a href="https://www.tfeps.org/">https://www.tfeps.org/</a>

### Nov 9th, 2024, Rare Fruit Council International Presents

Click on link for Tickets: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-annual-redlands-fruit-jamboree-tickets-1016329979327?aff=ebdssbdestsearch">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-annual-redlands-fruit-jamboree-tickets-1016329979327?aff=ebdssbdestsearch</a>

# First Annual Redlands Fruit Jamboree



#### Food Vendors

Fruteria Los Mendez - Latin Food Fire House BBQ - Chicken, Ribs, Hot Dogs, Corn Slaw Cold Refreshments

#### Children's Activity Tent

Crafting
Plant Bean Seed
Tree Leaf Bracelets
Contests

#### Speakers

Walking Farm Tours
Fertilize and Spraying
Growing Pineapples
Beekeeping
Planting Trees with Compost

Planting Trees with Compost Growing and Planting Vegetables

#### Vendors

Sol Mushrooms
Vegan Coconut Mixers
Compost for Life
Patch of Heaven
Rare Fruit Council International
Honey and Soaps from Honey



Tickets: Presale Adults \$12.-

Children 2 - 11 yrs \$7.-

## November 9th

9:00am - 5:00pm

JMW Farms 15585 SW 177th Ave

Visit: Eventbrite www.eventbrite.com Limited Secure Parking: \$5.- cash

Miami, FL 33187

No Coolers, Cans or Bottle



BSSF, INC Annual Auction RE-Scheduled for November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 7:15 PM Don't miss out on this unique opportunity! Discover rare, unusual, and collectible bromeliads at unbeatable prices. Join us for a fun-filled event and add some extraordinary plants to your collection!

