



Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

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Website: <http://bromeliads.club>

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40th Year Anniversary: 1977-2017

July 2017 Newsletter

**Meeting Announcement:
Sunday, July 16, 2017 at 2 PM
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford**

Our July meeting features Charlie Birdsong with his presentation: **The Nidularioid Complex (includes short info on Edmundoa, Wittrockia, Canistrum, Canistropsis, and Nidularium)**



It is not clear where the term Nidularioid originated, but it has been used by Leme, Luther, and many earlier writers. Basically, it is a combination of genera that includes Bromeliads characterized by a nestlike inflorescence lying within the leaf rosette.

Charlie will be bringing a number of Bromeliads for sale including some uncommon varieties from his Louisiana collection. Bromeliad collectors won't want to miss this meeting!

Please bring your plants for Show & Tell and donate your extra ones to the raffle table to benefit our society.

Barbara Whittier and the SBTPS will be providing the refreshments for the July meeting.

Charlie Birdsong bio

I developed my interest in Bromeliads from my parents in the late 1960's in New Orleans. I moved away from the plants to Baton Rouge in 1963 to attend LSU and have lived there ever since. After college I started my collection with Mulford Foster plants my parents and I had been given by Erik Knoblock. I brought my small collection to Baton Rouge.

In 1975 we started the Bromeliad Society of Baton Rouge. As a charter member, I have served in every office over the years and serve the Society today as President. I also serve as the Vice President of the Southwest Bromeliad Guild. I joined the BSI in 1975 and have attended many World Conferences and chaired the auction at four Conferences and serve as the Chairman of the BSI Affiliate Shows Committee. I co-chaired the Southwest Guild and Cryptanthus show in Baton Rouge. I served the BSI as Affiliate Shows Chairman since January 2010 and am a past BSI Director for the Central District.

After years of trying to get a judging school in New Orleans, I joined the school in Houston. I am now a Master Judge and have judged over 100 Shows.

I have had many opportunities to speak about my favorite plants at local garden societies and other plant groups and Bromeliad Societies in Louisiana, Texas, Florida, and even Australia. I have also had articles in the BSI Journal and local society plant bulletins. I have contributed articles for the Greater New Orleans Bromeliad Society bulletin *Potpourri*.

I grow many genera and, although Billbergias are favorites, most of my over 4,500 hundred plants are Neoregelias. I am fortunate to have daughters living in Florida. Under the excuse of a Grandpa visit, I have been able to make many trips to see Society shows and visit vendors every year and should continue to do so in the future.

President's Message

June Meeting

Ken Hicks gave a wonderful presentation on orchids that had members quite actively involved with lot of questions and many items passed around to illustrate his points. Thanks Ken!

Our June meeting once again had a lot of great plants available in the plant raffle including a number of larger plants. We also had a spirited discussion on the proposal to change the plant sales collections for Society/Plant Sellers to 10%/90%, a proposal which passed quite handily.

New Acquisitions

We had four new items available at the meeting: our new storage cabinet which will hold our library books and other materials, a microphone with an amplified speaker which received good use during the plant raffle, one of four new bench tables which was used to display some orchids, and a new rug that added some color to our break room.

Charitable Gifts

All members should have received an email on the topic of charitable giving by the Society. This email was sent out on June 28th and included some sample text for a possible charitable policy covering topics such as determining how much the Society will give annually, possible charitable organizations to receive gifts, and priorities for the order of charitable gifts.

If you haven't contributed your ideas on this topic, please feel free to do so. After member ideas are received, the Board will work on a proposed charitable policy to present to the membership for a vote or series of votes at the September meeting.

Bromeliad Show Judges

Sudi and I recently attended a Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) meeting where we learned that classes may soon be available in Florida for a judging school. If this is something you might be interested in, you should contact Jay Thurrott sometime in the near future. Send us an email if you need contact information.

Plant Picture of the Day

We continue to post a daily **Plant Picture of the Day** at <https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleBromeliadSociety/>. Not surprisingly, Bromeliad pictures tend to be the most popular. All members are encouraged to email us pictures that could be included. *Here's an idea:* Plant sellers might want to consider emailing us a few high quality pictures which could be examples of individual plants they might have available at the upcoming plant sale.

Bromeliad Inflorescence Contest

Our July meeting will include a contest to see how many Bromeliad inflorescences you can identify! We will have recent pictures of at least 15 different plants.

Plant Auction at 2017 Bromeliad Extravaganza

The Society will contribute \$200 worth of plants to the Extravaganza's auction in Tampa on August 5th. If you also have a nice plant to contribute, please bring it to the July meeting.
---Greg Kolojeski



Ken Hicks shows how to divide an orchid



Plant raffle, orchids for sale on top of one of our new bench tables and members listening to the presentation



June's most popular Plant Picture of the Day:
Neoregelia retrorsa, a rare species plant

**August 19th & 20th Annual Fall Plant Sale:
9-4 PM Each Day**