

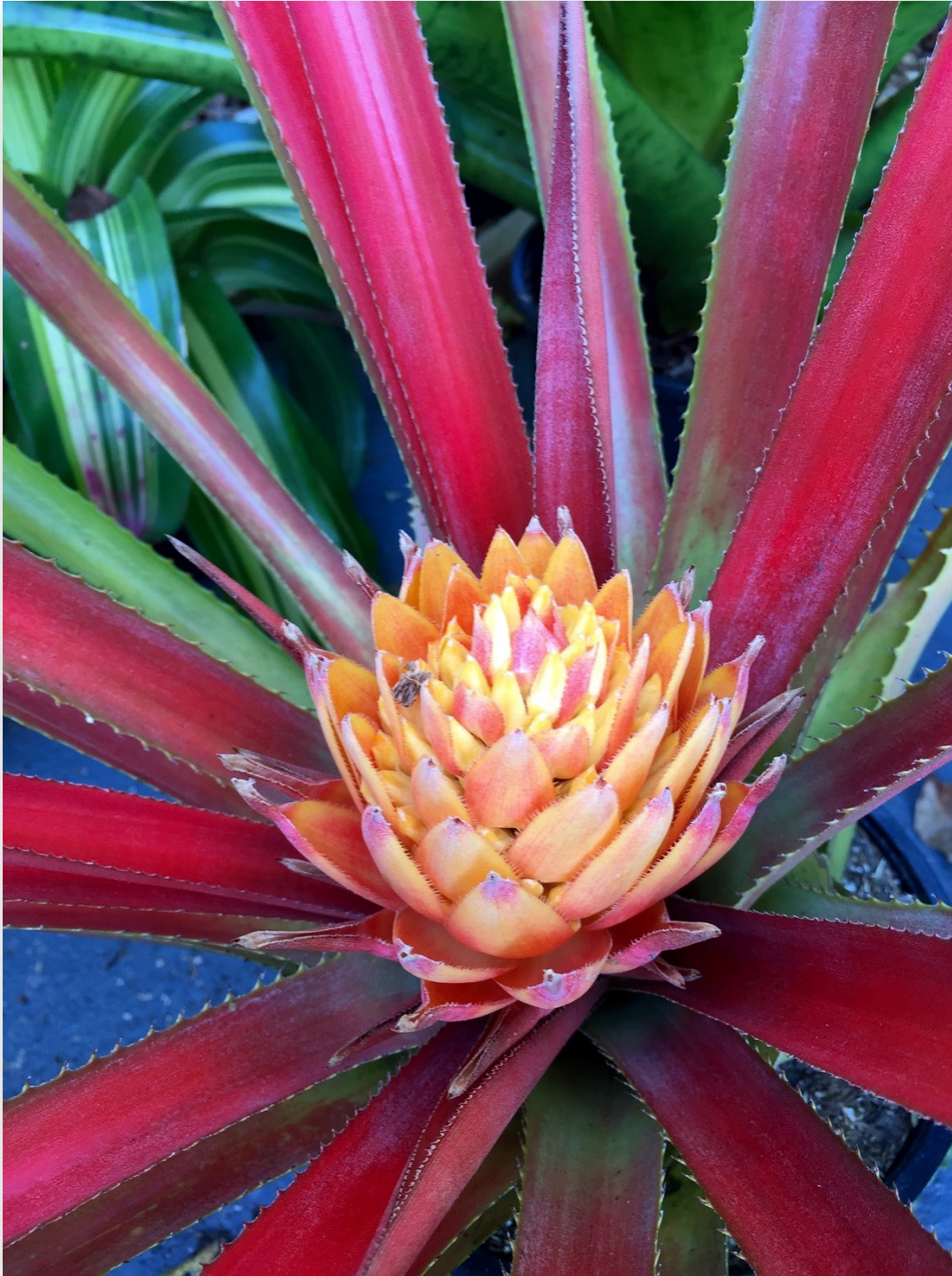
**BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY**

**SCURF**

**DECEMBER 2014**

[www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/](http://www.bromeliadsocietybc.com/)

**TIME TO CELEBRATE BSBC'S 50TH YEAR !**



*Aechmea biflora*  
image courtesy of Bruce Zaret

# 2014 Officers, Directors, and Chairpersons

## BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY

P.O. Box 17272  
Plantation, FL 33318

### Officers:

President	Charlene "Becky" Blackwood	954-791-8017
Vice President	Larry Davis	954-434-8466
Treasurer-Interim	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
Recording Secretary	Vacant	
Corresponding Secretary	Gayle Spinell-Gellers	954-478-0367

### Directors:

3 year	Bruce Zaret	bruce4art@aol.com
2 year	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
1 year	Shirley Konefal	954-922-5582

### Committee Chairpersons:

Country Store	Bill David	954-321-9229
Librarian	Tracy Moulton	954-864-9776
Membership	Carol Mordas	954-587-6036
	Marcia David	954-321-9229
	Gloria Chernoff	954-327-8516
Photographer	Bill David	954-321-9229
Plant Sale Table	Bill David	954-321-9229
Publicity	Sara Donayre	964-925-5112
Raffle/Ticket Sales	Suzee Newman	954-583-4277
Refreshments	Harriet Abo	954-434-8466

Our meetings generally offer a speaker on timely and noteworthy topics, member plant sales, a plant raffle, special holiday plant auctions, diagnosis of disease and pest problems, and a Country Store with selected bromeliad and gardening supplies.

We meet the third Monday of every month except January and February.

Affiliations: BSBC supports



# The President's Message

Our countdown is on for our year-end .....

**COVERED DISH HOLIDAY PARTY**  
and  
**OUR 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**  
on  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014**

We've scheduled the party early in December so it doesn't conflict with your other holiday commitments. **BRING YOUR BROMELIAD GIFTS AND COVERED DISH AT 6:00 PM.** Dinner will begin at 6:30 PM at Deicke Auditorium in Plantation.



Your Board has made out their list and checked it twice: Main meat courses for our dinner, assorted drinks, utensils, our bromeliad gifts, a Bromeliad Plant Exchange, an Anniversary banner, celebratory toasts, cake, chocolate candies, Anniversary gifts, speakers, and recognizing sustaining members from the last 50 years.

Your list: Your presence, your favorite covered dish (**Check with Harriet Abo at 954-434-8466** or via email at **LoveDisney20022002@yahoo.com** to coordinate what to bring), one covered plant for the Bromeliad Exchange per person, a healthy appetite and lastly, non-perishable grocery items for a deserving needy family of the Plantation Community Church.

THE ONLY THING WE ARE MISSING ON OUR LIST IS **YOU!**

Some PARTY DETAILS TO REMEMBER:

EXPECT A REMINDER FROM OUR PHONE CALL COMMITTEE TO BRING YOUR COVERED DISH AND YOUR BROMELIAD FOR THE EXCHANGE.

YOUR PLANT FOR THE EXCHANGE MUST FIRST BE A BROMELIAD, CLEAN, FREE OF SCALE, POTTED PROPERLY AND SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE YOURSELF. ONLY BROMELIADS PLEASE!

You will also be receiving a Holiday GIFT PLANT FROM OUR SOCIETY. YOU MUST BE A CURRENT MEMBER and YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO RECEIVE YOUR PLANT.

At the end of the party, you will be given a ticket to give to the person distributing the plants. There will be two types - EACH MEMBER RECEIVES ONLY ONE PLANT.

OUR SOCIETY IS EXPRESSING THEIR THANKS FOR THE MANY BLESSINGS WE HAVE

RECEIVED THIS YEAR WITH DONATIONS OF NONPERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR A LOCAL NEEDY FAMILY OF THE PLANTATION COMMUNITY CHURCH'S CHOOSING. IT IS OUR WAY OF EXPRESSING THANKS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY IN SHARING THEIR HALL WITH OUR MEMBERS DURING DEICKE'S RENOVATIONS.

February is our membership renewal month. If you pay your dues in January, you will receive a raffle sheet of 20 tickets as our thanks for paying early. Just think of all the amenities our members receive - knowledgeable Bromeliad speakers, education, food, refreshments and sale plants at each meeting, raffle plants, opportunities to sell your plants for profit, gift plants, garden tours, reduced costs for gardening tools. GREAT REASONS TO BE A BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF BROWARD COUNTY MEMBER.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY AND  
HERE'S TO 50 MORE YEARS OF ENJOYING OUR BROMELIAD GARDENS.**

*Becky*

## BSBC Vice-President Ramblings



Hi, Gang - -

Par-Tee - - Par-Tee - - I'm ready - - picked up a new Christmas hat - - have plants for the swap - - and Harriet and I have been in several stores, multiple times to gather all the goodies for the holiday banquet. Our front room is piled high. We'll bring the ham, the turkey and the drinks, you're responsible for the rest. I just can't wait. I'm sure Becky has given you more details.

I know you want to know about our January meeting - - two speakers - - sort of a relay talk. You'll meet two more of my good buds: Joe Libertucci and Jeff Hutchinson. These two have given several lectures at the Mounts Botanical Garden. Joe is ending his latest term as the President of the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches - - he has been their president for six of the last seven years. His persona will keep you smiling and laughing while he is sharing his extensive knowledge about bromeliads.

Jeff is a professional landscaper, well known throughout the Palm Beaches. He has enormous shade houses holding a wonderful collection of bromeliads - - several of which he will bring along to sell. Joe and Jeff have talked twice before at our club so actually they will be renewing friendships with a good number of our members. They

will be speaking on the subject of mounting bromeliads in trees, on rocks, on drift-wood or on most anything handy. Most people think of Tillandsia as the only genus to mount but Joe and Jeff will open your eyes to a whole new world of using bromeliads and give you a few ideas on how to gain more room in your gardens.

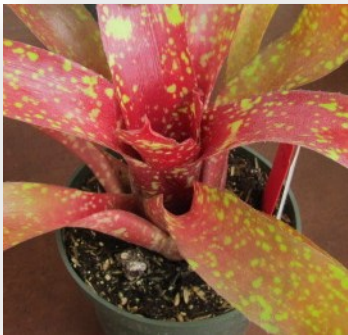
In February you will meet Jay Thurrott, a former president of the Bromeliad Society International and the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. His talk is about a new way to propagate bromeliads - - I have already heard him speak on this subject - - he completely blew me away and I asked him to speak to our group as soon as he was done talking.

In March we will hear Mike and Lynn Thompson tell us how to spend your vacation at a bromeliad convention - - their down-home approach will have you considering your next vacation.

Larry

## SCURF Feature

November Mystery Plant Identified



Neoregelia  
'Royal Orleans' x 'Treasure Chest'  
hybrid by Jim Pearce

**Win a raffle sheet with 20 tickets....**

Be the first to email the editor at [yroftiger@aol.com](mailto:yroftiger@aol.com) with the correct name of this brom



## Membership News

D  
E  
C



Cathy Clapp  
Jon Cole  
Frank Crabb  
Mike Harris  
Matt Hendrix  
Sylvia Hill

Gigi Louis  
Tracy Moulton  
Geraldine Seesahai  
Ken Workman  
Jennifer Yates  
Patty Zicarelli

## Next Meeting



**Monday, December 8, 2014**

**Deicke Auditorium, 5701 Cypress Road, Plantation, FL**

Please arrive at 6:00 pm with your covered dish and plant for exchange. The plant should be wrapped in a paper bag to hide its identity. Those who have brought plants will be given a number so they can participate in the event. Numbers will be drawn one at a time at random. The first number drawn will select from all the plants on the table. The next number drawn will have the option of selecting an unopened bag from the table OR taking the plant previously selected. If the previously selected plant is taken, then that person selects another unopened plant from the table. The last number called gets to pick from ALL previously selected plants except from anyone who has had their plant taken twice. No one can have more than 2 plants taken from them. They get to keep the third.

### **SPECIAL REQUEST**

Please bring in a non-perishable food item for the Plantation Community Church's Families in Need program.

# Harriet's Hoots

Happy Holidays, Gang -

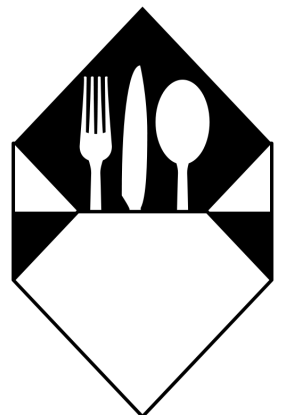
Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way (well, here I go again, singing away - LOL), but I do love the Christmas songs and before you know it, the 25<sup>th</sup> of December will be knocking at your door. Thanksgiving is over and I do hope that you all had a happy one. I'm sure the turkey wasn't too pleased, but that's the breaks.

As you know, the club will be having our annual pot-luck holiday party. The date is Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> and it will be held at Deicke (our normal meeting place). The time will be 6:00 pm and we'll probably eat at 6:30 pm. This is a little earlier than our usual meeting time but with everyone bringing a dish, it takes time to set up, place the food, unwrap, etc. etc. By coming earlier, we will have plenty of time to get organized and everyone can decide where they want to sit and no one feels rushed.

In regards to the food, the club is supplying a Honey Baked Ham and Turkey Breast and there will also be an assortment of drinks. At our last meeting I sent around a list that you all could fill out what you were going to bring. I know that not all the members were at our November meeting but in looking over the list, I see that we are short on Appetizers, Meats (such as a pasta dish, etc. ) and desserts. I'm sure that you know what I mean as you all are such wonderful cooks. One last thing I need to mention is if your dish requires it, please, please don't forget to bring serving utensils. If you have any questions on what to bring, please do not hesitate to call me. My cell # is 954-268-3471 and I will be happy to answer any questions you have.

Ok, now I would like to thank the following members for their contribution at our last meeting and they are:

Gloria Chernoff - - Assorted Pastry Bites (yummy)  
Shirley Konefal - - Chicken Alfredo (very tasty)  
Susan Mather - - Crème Cake (delicious)  
Brigitte Sheeks - - Assorted Cheese, Grapes and Crackers (great choice)  
George Henderson - - Chocolate Overload Cake (Wow - that was super)  
Elsa Snaveley - - Flan (boy, did that go fast - wonderful)  
Eddie Yi - - - - Asian Cabbage Slaw (very nice and good)  
Sandi Block-Brezner - Assortment of Sugar Cookies (we do love our sweets)



Well, that's it for now. I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Holiday Party. Bring your dishes, a great big smile and we'll all have a wonderful time.

**HUGS - Harriet** 7

# From Our Education Chair

## *Aechmea biflora* (? cultivar)

By Bruce S. Zaret

The picture on our SCURF front cover displays an exceptionally beautiful *Aechmea* from the *Streptocalyx* sub-genus (former taxon name was *Streptocalyx biflorus*). This plant was purchased from Bullis Nursery in Dade County. At maturity, it has a diameter of 60 inches (Picture 1) and a conical shaped inflorescence (Picture 2) that is 8 inches tall and 5 inches wide.



*Aechmea biflora* is so named because it generates two flowers per fascicle. It originates from the low lands in Ecuador and will grow epiphytically, although like many Bromeliads, larger when grown as a terrestrial. The sexually immature plant will have orange-red tipped leaves when grown "hard" (Picture 3) and its leaves will all turn red at anthesis (Picture 1).

The chart below contrasts our cover specimen with other *Aechmeas* that have similar shape but different colors of their floral bracts, calyx or corolla. Although *Aechmea nidularioides* forma yellow also has yellow floral bracts, note that it has white flowers like the red floral bract form in contradistinction to our *biflora* specimen which has an orange corolla and yellow calyx. Pictures of *Aechmea biflora* on the internet, including the FCBS.org picture site, all show violet tipped white-yellow corolla with a yellow calyx. These distinctions suggest that the cover plant may be a cultivar of the prototypical *Aechmea biflora*.

	<b>COLOR FLORAL BRACTS</b>	<b>COLOR CALYX</b>	<b>COLOR COROLLA</b>	<b>PICTURES</b>
<b>OUR SPECIMEN</b>	Yellow with fine red vertical lines and red tips ( Picture 2 )	Yellow ( Picture 4 )	Orange ( Picture 4 )	
<i>Aechmea biflora</i> prototype	Yellow with red tips	Yellow-white	Violet	See FCBS.org Photo Index
<i>Aechmea nidularioides</i> forma red	Red with white tips	White	White	Picture 5
<i>Aechmea nidularioides</i> forma yellow	Yellow with white tips	White	White	Picture 6
<i>Aechmea</i> 'Sundance' (a <i>nidularioides</i> cv from Bullis)	Coral with white tips	White	White	Picture 7
<i>Aechmea streptocalycoides</i>	Rose-pink with white tips	White	White base with violet tips	See FCBS.org Photo Index
<i>Aechmea longifolia</i>	Coral-red	Coral-red	White base with light blue tops	See FCBS.org Photo Index

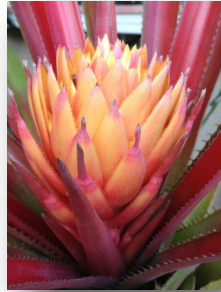


Picture 1



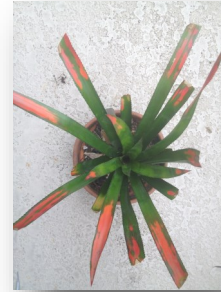
*Aechmea biflora*

Picture 2



*Aechmea biflora*  
closeup

Picture 3



*Aechmea biflora*  
immature

Picture 4



*Aechmea biflora*

Picture 5



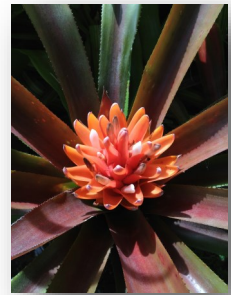
*Aechmea nidularioides*  
forma red

Picture 6



*Aechmea nidularioides*  
forma yellow

Picture 7



*Aechmea 'Sundance'*

## From the Editor

What a year 2014 has been!

We started off with a visit from John Budree from the Plantation Orchid Society. He was followed by Dr. Terrie Burt, Diana Guidry of Naturescape, presentations by our own Bruce Zaret and Larry Davis with Broms 101. We got a look into the world of hybridizing when Mike Michalski came by. Dennis Cathcart took us on a whirlwind tour Brazil's bromeliads. Dr. Bob McMillan gave us an inside look at Kerry's Nursery. Dr. Bill Kern identified the snails that plague our gardens. Peter Kouchalakas ran our auction with panache and humor. We wound up the year with Dave Johnston and Foliage Vrieseas. Pretty good deal. My crescent garden is looking better, the seeds Mike gave out are s-l-o-w-l-y growing and there is so much more to learn.

As Larry mentioned in his column, great speakers are already lined up for 2015 and plans are in the works for BSBC to participate in several plant events. Count me in.

Happy Gardening,



Gayle

## Calendar of Local Plant Society Meetings

1st Tuesday	Plantation Orchid Society	Volunteer Park
2nd Friday	Ft. Lauderdale Garden Club	Birch State Park
2nd Monday	BSBC Board Meeting	Deicke Auditorium
3rd Monday	Bromeliad Society of Broward County	Deicke Auditorium
3rd Tuesday	Bromeliad Society of So. Florida	Fairchild Gardens
3rd Wednesday	Equality Park Garden Club	Pride Center
3rd Wednesday	Plantation Garden Club 9:30 am—noon	El Dorado Community Center
3rd Thursday	Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches	Mounts Botanical
3rd Thursday	Shade Brigade (no meetings July & Aug.)	Plantation Bldg. Dept.

## Places to Go, Things to See

Sat., Dec. 6	Annual Bromeliad Plant Sale 10-3	Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Terry Park 3410 Palm Beach Blvd., Ft Myers, FL
Fri., Jan. 31 & Sat., Feb. 1	<a href="#">Gardenfest!</a>	Riverside Park 3250 Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach, FL
Sat., Mar. 14 & Sun, Mar. 15	<a href="#">Spring Plant Sale at Leu Gardens</a>	1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando, FL
March 2015	Tropical Plant Affair	Equality Park Garden, Wilton Manors, FL
Fri., Mar. 27 - Sun., Mar. 29	<a href="#">Tropiflora's Spring Festival</a> 8-5, 8-5, 10-3	3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota, FL
April 2015	Westfield Mall Plant Sale	Westfield Mall 8000 W. Broward Blvd, Plantation, FL

## Business

Advertise here.....

\$ 10 a month

Advertise on our website....

\$ 60 a year

### BSBC Country Store

6 in" pots \_\_\_\_\_ 5 pots for \$ 1.00

Plant Sticks \_\_\_ 50 sticks for \$1.00

Contact Bill David

@ 954-321-9229