



BromeliAdvisory

February 2024

<http://www.bssf-miami.org>

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Mem. Plant Sales: Alex Bello
Special Events/ Refreshments: Sandy Roth
Silent Auction: Rene Izquierdo
Field Trip: Tina Severson

About Our Speaker

April 16, 2024, Next Meeting 7:30 PM Corbin A

(Member Sales Plants Allowed, Silent Auction & Raffle Table, Food Items welcomed and appreciated)

Steve Hoppin



The Cryptanthus Group; Obligated Terrestrials
By Stephen L. Hoppin

Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, Steve and his family moved to Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 1962. Over the years some of Steve's passions have included Hunt Seat and Western horsemanship, scuba diving, bird watching, and horticulture.

Steve has enjoyed growing a variety of tropical plants in South Florida for many years. His main interest in bromeliads began in the year 2000. He has been a collector and grower of various bromeliad genera ever since. With the encouragement of good friend Gene McKenzie, founder of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and others, Steve successfully completed the Bromeliad Society International Judges School in 2005. Today he is an active BSI Master Bromeliad Judge. He is a member of the BSI, FCBS, Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society (past President and several times Show Chairman) and Cryptanthus Society. Steve is a past Cryptanthus Society President having completed four two year terms and today remains a Cryptanthus Society Honorary Trustee. As an exhibitor and judge he has attended and participated in World Bromeliad Conferences, International Cryptanthus Shows and BSI Affiliates' Shows throughout the United States and also Cairns, Australia. Steve's horticultural exhibition achievements include winning the Mulford B. Foster "Best of Show" two times and the Morris Henry Hobbs Award. As a horticulturist he is most proud of his success as a hybridizer having registered over twenty Cryptanthus hybrids which include; C. 'Thriller', C. 'Eternal Love', and C. 'Love Potion # 9. He strives to produce new robust hybrids with unusual color and markings for all Cryptanthus enthusiasts to enjoy. Mr. Hoppin's personal travels of six of the seven continents include study of Cryptanthus in their natural habitats of Brazil. He has applied much of what he has learned in the field to achieve his success in growing quality Cryptanthus. In 2021 Steve moved to Knoxville, Tennessee where he continues to maintain a varied collection of bromeliads, hybridizing bromeliads and vegetable gardening. Nothing tastes better than a home grown tomato! Steve's power point program entitled "The Cryptanthus Group; Obligated Terrestrials" will include photographs, lecture and cover description, habitat, optimum cultural conditions, as well as, recent taxonomic changes to the genus Cryptanthus. In addition, he will share personal and recommended growing techniques for all interested parties to grow quality Cryptanthus.

Membership Drive

Time again for our annual membership drive. Your membership is important to us. Please take the time to renew your membership or join if you are new. Dues remain \$25.00 per person and \$35.00 per couple.

Please see Patty Gonzalez, membership chair. You can click on our website below to access the membership form and pay through the links below.

[Double Membership - \\$35](https://square.link/u/LpDC7hqv)
<https://square.link/u/LpDC7hqv>

[Single Membership - \\$25](https://square.link/u/3a3y4W9z)
<https://square.link/u/3a3y4W9z>

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, 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:

“IT’S SHOW TIME!!! This month is the marquee showcase of what BSSF has to offer and our number one community engagement. Get your plants ready that will be entered in our show. Come to our next meeting for registration information.

We have a special speaker visiting us from outside Florida!!”

- Alex Bello



In Case You Missed It by Tina Severson

Alex Bello went over the Do's and Don'ts for our upcoming Show. He showed us some of the mistakes from our last show. Some of the main reasons people don't make it to the head table is simply the pot size is incorrect, either too big or too small. Also, the pot may be too tall for the bromeliad. All bromeliads must be clean and without scale or other pests. Centered in the pots and all dead leaves taken off. If the bromeliad has an inflorescence, it must be straight in the pot and no dead blooms.

In our show we have decorative container as well as artistic arrangement. If you are using a decorative container, make sure the Bromeliad is in only one container. Also, it's best to have a container that is complimentary to the bromeliad and doesn't distract.

Alex showed examples of uneven growth patterns. For example, the bottom leaves are much longer than the top ones. In one of the beautiful examples, the reason the bottom leaves were left on was because of the beautiful coloring but it didn't make it to the head table unfortunately.

Alex shared ways of cleaning the bromeliads. He suggested we take a hose and shake them out to make sure there are no leaves or anything else in them.

It was also brought up by some of our prior participants that clay pots are allowed, and you don't have to buy new ones if you properly clean them. Alex mentioned that you can soak a clay pot in a bucket of 40% bleach and water for a couple days and then soak it in clean water and the pot is as good as new.

The show schedule with all the rules was sent out for everyone to review. Please contact Alex if you have any additional questions.



Thank you for your Engagement

Silent Auction Table

Please see our Chairman Rene if you are bringing in Silent Auction Plants!

Laura Shrier Coe, Ofelia Sorzano



Rene Izquierdo, Maureen Adelman, & Karen Bradley



Our Members are always welcome to bring in beautiful bromeliads!

Raffle Ticket given to all those who bring food to share!
We all love a party!



Raffle Table

See Alex Bello if you are interested in providing the raffle table.



Mike Michalski Bromeliads Below



Samantha Jones Show & Tell Bromeliad



Upcoming Community Events



It's time for Flamingo Gardens annual Exotic Plant Festival and Bonsai Show featuring a bonsai show presented by the Broward Bonsai Society, plant and landscape vendors offering rare and exotic plants, supplies, garden art and accessories, and multicultural food vendors and entertainment, including guest-favorite Ronin Taiko Japanese drumming performances.

"Stop by and see **Stephanie LaRusso** she will be bringing, Ho. pennae hybrids, facultative spineless Ae chantinii, a few ferns, dioons and aroids, some multitrunk pachypodiums and a bunch of fun bromeliad species and hybrids. Hope to see some of you there and if not have a great weekend!"

Click on the link: <https://flamingogardens.org/events-calendar/exotic-plant-festival-bonsai-show/>



It's almost here...A Do Not Miss Event!

The Bromeliad Society of South Florida, Annual Show and Sale!

Located on the grounds and in the garden house at: Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden.

Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21st, 2024!

Your admission fee gets you into the show and sale. Where you can buy bromeliads, enjoy award winning bromeliads on display at the Garden House..(yes, it's air conditioned)

Rare plant Auctions both days, at 1 pm sharp! Our knowledgeable members are happy to give you advice on all your plants!

Talented Student Art is showcased, awards will be given out!

Please join us, stroll the garden, bring your family and friends.

You may bring a picnic or pop into The Glasshouse Café.

*Their menu includes organic and locally grown food including soups, gourmet sandwiches, wraps, salads, sodas, smoothies, desserts, and adult beverages (wine, prosecco, and beer).

Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden

10901 Old Cutler Rd, Coral Gables, FL 33156

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Saturday & Sunday, April 20-21 10:00 AM -5:00 PM



Event Details

Bromeliad Show & Sale presented by the Bromeliad Society of South Florida
April 20-21, 2024
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Don't miss this opportunity to meet and interact with bromeliad experts, shop, and enjoy a beautiful day in paradise.

Plants for Sale

South Florida has a great number of specialist growers and nurseries who propagate, hybridize grow, and sell bromeliads worldwide. There will be approximately ten vendors selling unique types of bromeliads and related merchandise. Vendors can provide growing tips to keep new acquisitions in great shape.

The Bromeliad Society of South Florida Exhibit

Be sure to check out the Annual Show Exhibit, a juried competition of rare plants. And be sure to chat members to learn about the important work this plant society is doing.

Rare Plant Auctions

Experience the lively auction of plants chosen from the growers' and nurserymen's collections. This is the perfect chance to purchase plants you will only see here and never on retail shelves. Make your best bid and take home some unique plants. Come early to check these plants out before the auction.

Students' Art Show

The Bromeliad Society of South Florida is very proud to partner with the Miami-Dade School District in presenting a juried art show of very talented middle school students. All works feature bromeliads.

Click on the link: <https://ftbg.ticketapp.org/portal/product/168>



South Florida Palm Society 2024 Show & Sale April 27-28

The South Florida Palm Society will be conducting its first Spring Show & Sale in eight years! And the event will be at a new venue: The Coral Gables campus of the University of Miami.

The sale will take place on April 27-28, from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the west side of the campus, just steps from the Gifford Arboretum. Not only will vendors offer an outstanding array of palms and cycads, but on both days, there will be morning and afternoon tours of the Arboretum and the Palmetum to observe the extensive use of palms in the UM landscape.

Admission to the sale and the tours is FREE.

The sale area is easy to locate. A large sign marks the entrance to the Gifford Arboretum on San Amaro Dr., five blocks north of the circle at Miller Dr. and one block south of the circle at Campo Sano Ave. Turn into the Arboretum entrance, and then make an immediate right turn into the parking area adjacent to the vendor spaces.

We look forward to seeing you on April 27-28!



Plant-a-Palooza Spring Plant Sale 2024

April 27 @ 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Click on the link <https://www.mounts.org/plant-sales/>



Mother's Day Celebration
Sunday, May 12, 2024
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

[Ticket Info click here](#)

REDLAND INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL

MAY 17-19, 2024 | 10 AM – 6 PM DAILY

24801 SW 187TH AVE

REDLAND, FL 33031

FRUIT AND SPICE PARK

Click on the link <https://redlandorchidfestival.com/>



BSI World Bromeliad Conference 2024

22 - 25 May 2024 West Palm Beach Marriott, West Palm Beach, USA

CLICK ON THE LINK

[HTTPS://WWW.BSI.ORG/NEW/CONFERENCE-CORNER/](https://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/)

Bromeliad Society International Presents
World Bromeliad Conference 2024
May 22-25, 2024 • West Palm Beach, Florida

WBC 2024 will feature an exciting slate of events including a welcome reception, botanical tours, a banquet dinner, several world-renowned speakers & guests, the world's largest bromeliad sale and a professionally judged bromeliad show.

Conference registration for attendees includes:

- Welcome Reception — International poolside barbecue
- Historic WBC 2024 tote bag
- World conference banquet dinner with speaker Andrew Devonshire on 'Hybridising, The Kiwi Way'
- Mounts Botanical Garden tour by luxurious motor-coach
- Access to world renowned speakers & honored guests
- World's largest bromeliad sale
- Professionally judged bromeliad show

Don't wait — register and reserve a hotel room online soon to save!
(Special reduced rates are available to all current BSI members)



Grant's Farm Nursery Tour



Join us for a special, behind-the-scenes tour to Florida's oldest bromeliad nursery! Reserve your space online for only \$25.

WBC 2024 World-Renowned Speakers



Find the latest WBC 2024 news and registration links online:
www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/

We look forward to seeing you at WBC 2024!
Conference Chairman Tom Ramiccio (Tramiccio@aol.com) & Conference Co-Chairman Alex Bello

Post-Conference Ecuador Field Trip with Plant Expeditions



Complete your conference experience with a 15 day tour through Ecuador. See over 150 bromeliad species in their native habitat! Also see wildlife — butterflies, birds, insects and monkeys! For more tour information and to reserve your space visit:
www.plantexpeditions.com/plant-tours/2024/ecuador

