

Bromeliad Society

HOUSTON Inc.

January 2024
Volume 57
Number 1



Cryptanthus 'Fire and Ice' - Pastel

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REMINDERS

♦ ANNUAL DUES

Individual - \$20

Family - \$30

Allyn Pearlman

BSH Treasurer

6422 Bankside Drive

Houston, TX 77096

or

Zelle to:

deliboys@comcast.net

713-858-3047

♦ REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 16, 6:30 PM

Metropolitan Multi-Service Center

1475 West Gray

Houston 77019

[Or by Zoom \(see Page 3\)](#)

♦ BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 18, 7:30 P.M.

[By Zoom \(see Page 4\)](#)



FROM **THE** **PREZ**

Happy New Year. Well, we survived another year of our life and a tough year of growing our beloved bromeliads in some very trying weather conditions.

I have made my new years resolutions and as usual I have resolved to clean out the garden shed, repot my pups, plant my spring veggie garden earlier, resod the heat damaged lawn, put away the greenhouse insulation completely when I take it down, clean out the shade cloth and freeze cloth boxes, and more. It sounds like more than I can accomplish in just one year. Hope springs eternal.

We also have another year for our society to accomplish all that we have planned. We have many wonderful programs planned for our meetings, an ABC event to enjoy, we have new seedlings to procure and enjoy caring for them. We have our spring show to plan for and produce. I am looking forward to working through our activities.

Elsewhere in this newsletter I have provided a somewhat updated list of our new committee chairs. Please say yes to our committee chairs when they call you and ask for your assistance with their committee business.

I would like to thank all of our committee chairs for the tireless work they did for us in 2023. I also thank each member for faithfully attending meetings, working at our events and generally supporting all of the educational work we do to inform the public about how enjoyable it is to raise bromeliads.

Our new year greets a familiar set of officers and new board members which will make transitioning into 2024 a breeze. I look forward to our new year with our bromeliad adventures and friendships that will make our year a joy. And please remember to pay your 2024 dues to Allyn Pearlman.

JANUARY PROGRAM

Speaker: Michael O'Neal

Topic: Practical Bromeliads

Mike O'Neal Bio

Mike O'Neal grew up around bromeliads with his dad growing a variety of tropical plants including many bromeliads from as early as he can remember. He has been casually growing bromeliads himself for most of the last 40 years after a gift of an *Aechmea fasciata* from his dad. Along the way, he has had the opportunity to do almost everything wrong with them and still has a thriving collection. As a fairly recent member of the Bromeliad Society Houston, he continuously wonders why he waited so long to take advantage of the knowledge, experience and resources of such a wonderful group of bromeliad growers. He has been an officer of the society for the last 3 years with the hope and intent of paying their generosity forward.

Practical Bromeliads

Mike will talk about how easy it can be to do a few simple things and have many healthy bromeliads. As he started to take an interest in growing them himself, he had to develop an approach that allowed him to keep them alive and healthy often with little time, space or money to dedicate to raising them. He will show how it is possible to grow a variety of them with very little effort and still get a lot of enjoyment out of them. With a few tips and techniques learned from his dad, Odean Head, and other experienced growers, it is possible to have bromeliads that look the way you want them to with a minimal effort.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Debbie Bragg	1/10
Bob Kirby	1/13
Eileen Baskerville	1/15
Lynn Friedman	1/16
Malcom McCorquodale III	1/17
Betty Garrison	1/19
Karen Malinowski	1/23
Sylvia Compton	1/27



ZOOM INFORMATION FOR REGULAR MEETING

Topic: Bromeliad Society Houston January Monthly Meeting
Time: Jan 16, 2024 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83850919077?
pwd=bTFEOW1lckVYc1NaRVBUSXR0M0NUUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83850919077?pwd=bTFEOW1lckVYc1NaRVBUSXR0M0NUUT09)

Meeting ID: 838 5091 9077
Passcode: 481825

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,83850919077#,,,,*481825# US (Houston)
+16699006833,,83850919077#,,,,*481825# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 646 931 3860 US

Meeting ID: 838 5091 9077
Passcode: 481825

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbeAW8veG>

ZOOM INFORMATION FOR BOARD MEETING

Topic: BSH January Board Meeting

Time: Jan 18, 2024 07:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89912219834?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89912219834?pwd=dEF2MUtlU1plVHk3Q3VGTS9xcEF3dz09)

pwd=dEF2MUtlU1plVHk3Q3VGTS9xcEF3dz09

Meeting ID: 899 1221 9834

Passcode: 278887

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,89912219834#,,,,*278887# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,89912219834#,,,,*278887# US (Tacoma)

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• **+1 669 444 9171 US**

• **+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

• **+1 719 359 4580 US**

• **+1 253 205 0468 US**

• **+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

• **+1 360 209 5623 US**

• **+1 386 347 5053 US**

• **+1 507 473 4847 US**

• **+1 564 217 2000 US**

• **+1 646 931 3860 US**

• **+1 689 278 1000 US**

• **+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**

• **+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)**

• **+1 305 224 1968 US**

• **+1 309 205 3325 US**

Meeting ID: 899 1221 9834

Passcode: 278887

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbH0RL5Cro>

JANUARY'S BLOOMERS 2024

From the Greenhouse and Gardens of Cherie and Frank Lee



Aechmea chantinii 'Samurai'



Billbergia amoena rubra



Cryptanthus 'Living Colors'



Cryptanthus 'Rick Richtmyer'

MORE BLOOMERS 2024

From the Greenhouse and Gardens of Cherie and Frank Lee Pt 2



Tillandsia ixiodes



Vriesea botafogensis



Wallisia cyanea variegata



Vriesea 'Sunset'

MORE BLOOMERS 2024

[From the Greenhouse of John and Mary Cinotto Edmonson](#)



Aechmea chantinii 'Samurai'



Aechmea orlandiana 'White Knight'



Tillandsia ehlersiana



Tillandsia ionanta 'Hand Grenade'

“Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads”

By Tom Wolfe and Eileen Kahl with pictures added by Karen Andreas

This month’s article was published in the November 2015 newsletter of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and was written with the help of Tom Wolfe.

Tom’s wife Carol Wolfe has been the Editor of FCBS for the last 9 years or more and has provided wonderful photography for many of the articles Tom Wolfe has written for the FCBS, the Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society of Tampa (formerly the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay) and the BSI journal. Tom has been a member of the BSI for over 50 years and was President of the BSI, President of the Tampa Bromeliad Society, and the Conference Chairman for the WBC held in Tampa, Florida in 1992. Tom is the owner of Lobo Landscaping and has been in business for 55 years serving the greater Tampa, Florida area. Tom is also a Master Bromeliad Society Judge having received his diploma at the Corpus Christi WBC in 1982.

This article will provide our members with some guidelines for cold sensitivity when we plan our outdoor garden scapes in Houston. Tom remarked that winters in Tampa have been somewhat warmer over the past 5 years as opposed to the colder than normal winters we have dealt with recently. We can confirm that *Aechmea recurvata*, *Aechmea distichantha* and *Billbergia* ‘Hallelujah’ have been growing under trees in our front yard for several years and have done well under frost cloth even under freezing conditions.

We are providing a link (below) to the article about cold sensitive bromeliads on the fcbs.org website, Volume 35, Issue 4, pages 14-18. There are many other issues of the Florida Council newsletters listed, and all of them contain really interesting and relevant articles. Spend some time looking around; you’ll find some good information.

<https://www.fcbs.org/newsletters/FCBS/2015/11-2015.PDF>



Tribute to:
Barbara Szymczak
Joined BSHI 2013

Photo taken in Sarasota, Florida World Conference in 2022 at the home of Bruce Howard.

As everyone knows Bromeliads are addicting. Barbara's addiction began innocently with me sharing a few of my pups. The addiction grew and grew. She would come to a few of our sales with me and then we went to our first World Conference in Orlando, Florida in 2012.

The addiction continued with World Conferences in Hawaii, Houston, San Diego and finally Sarasota. We were asked to be 'Vannas' at several World Conference auctions and we loved showing the plants.

Barbara especially loved crypts and grew them very well. She made pots and mounts of bromeliads for her church's bazaar auctions. They were always a top seller with bidding wars between the ladies.

She was an amazing sister and a wonderful, caring person. I know I will not be the only one who misses her.

Vickie Gurka

2024 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Scherie Townes	SECRETARY David Whipkey	
VICE PRESIDENT Michael O'Neal	TREASURER Allyn Pearlman	PAST PRESIDENT Shirl Stowe

BOARD OF DIRECTORS -----		
Through 2024 Gordon Stowe Melenie Yuen	Through 2025 Frank Lee Linda Whipkey	Through 2026 Don Green Mary Cinotto

STANDING COMMITTEES-----

PUBLICATION Allyn Pearlman	PROGRAM CHAIRMAN Michael O'Neal
EDITOR Mary Cinotto	STANDING COMMITTEES EX-OFFICIO Shirl Stowe Cherie Lee
PLANT SALES CHAIRMAN Allyn Pearlman	

COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD-----

ANNUAL SHOW Allyn Pearlman	HOSPITALITY Debbie Thomas
BROMELIAD CULTURE Carole and Rick Richtmyer	MEMBERSHIP Allyn Pearlman
COURTESY Midge Gorman	SEEDLINGS Allyn Pearlman
DIRECTORY Mary Cinotto	SHOW AND TELL Gordon Stowe
EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS Mary Cinotto	RAFFLE Cherie and Frank Lee
GARDEN TOURS Gordon and Shirl Stowe	REGISTRATION John Sarkisian
HISTORIAN David Whipkey	ZOOM COMMUNICATION Michael O'Neal
HOLIDAY PARTY CHAIRMAN Allyn Pearlman	

BROMELIAD SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL -----		
Annette Dominquez	Cherie Lee	Daniel Wolf

BS/H membership

There are two classes of membership:

Individual	\$20 per year
Family	\$30 per year

All memberships begin with January of the current year. Visit our website at www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org for more information.

Please send your check to:

Allyn Pearlman
6422 Bankside Drive
Houston, TX 77096

Cryptanthus Society membership

There are two classes of membership:

Individual	\$20 per year
Family	\$25 per year

Please send your check to:

Carole Richtmyer
18814 Cypress Mountain Dr.
Spring, TX 77388



We have a large selection of Aechmea, Billbergia, Cryptanthus, Dyckia, Neoregelia, and Tillandsia. Please compare our prices and our quality.

15019 8th Street West, Santa Fe, TX 77517 ■ 409-925-6933

www.jimbosnursery.com

Houston Orchid Society

www.houstonorchidsociety.org

Regular meeting first Thursday of month at 7:30 PM
First Christian Church | 1601 Sunset Blvd



Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

www.tgcfersoc.org

Regular meeting third Sunday of month at 2:00 PM
Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center
2020 Hermann Drive., Houston, TX 77004