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Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

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June 2016 Newsletter

Meeting Announcement:
June 19, 2016 at 2 PM
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford

Our June meeting will feature a presentation by George Aldrich: *Costa Rica...Coast to Coast...Border to Border.*



George and Irene Aldrich

George spent three weeks touring Costa Rica with two friends. They rented a car and traveled from coast to coast and border to border in search of Bromeliads. They visited Bromeliad Guru Chester Skotak's nursery, Wilson Botanical Gardens, Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve and many other places which they captured in photos. **Bromeliad lovers won't want to miss this!**

George will bring a wide variety of Bromeliads to sell including Neo's, Cryptanthus, Nidulariums, Aechmeas, Billbergias, Tillandsias, Orthophytums, bi-generics and more! *There will be no member plant sales.*

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

Refreshments will be furnished by Bill Haynes & Gloria and Mike Miller.

George Aldrich's Bio

George is a native Floridian born and raised in Ocala. He retired in 1994 from the State of Florida Department of Transportation after 32 years as a surveyor and an engineer.

George and his wife Irene are members of the Bromeliad Society International and are Master Judges in the BSI. Both are long-time members of the SBTPS and the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society.

George has grown and collected bromeliads for over 25 years. His interest in bromeliads began in the late 80's when Irene brought home a Neoregelia spectabilis given to her by her employer. George's actual introduction into the world of bromeliads began when they attended one of the annual Seminole Bromeliad Society sales in Deland spearheaded by Carol Johnson.

In 1990 George built his first greenhouse (12' x 20') and this led to additional greenhouses. In 1991 he started a nursery, Plants N Things, in Ocala and now has 10,000+ square feet of greenhouse area.

George has traveled to Costa Rica and Peru collecting bromeliads.



Bromeliad Heaven in George and Irene's Backyard

President's Message

May Meeting Plant Sales

If you did not make it to the May meeting, you missed the opportunity to acquire a lot of great inexpensive plants. The speaker Jay Thurrott priced his plants unbelievably low and several members also had some great plants offered for sale at very nice prices!

Plant Sales Changes Adopted

The proposed plant sales changes were adopted with some modifications. Those modifications were prompted by members' suggestions emailed on the morning of the meeting; they were adopted by a unanimous vote. After a spirited discussion of one of the original proposals, all the proposals were adopted with 75% approval by the voting members.

Collector's Corner Auction

At the June meeting, we will once again have a Collector's Corner silent auction with the funds from the sale contributed to the SBTPS. So remember to bring some special plants to contribute (no more than one plant per contributing member).

World Bromeliad Conference in Houston

Several members will miss the June meeting since they will be in Houston. Barbara Whittier has graciously agreed to run the June meeting.

Discussions of Business Matters

The discussion of the plants sales changes went longer than I would have liked (and from feedback later received, longer than other members would have liked). I am hopeful that this was the first and last meeting of the year where such discussions will take up more than five minutes or so of our valuable meeting time.

--Greg Kolojeski

A Members' Guide to Keeping Business Discussions at Meetings Short

Idea #1: If discussion of a matter scheduled for a vote is running longer than you'd like, raise your hand and **make a motion to end the discussion in order to proceed to a vote**. Then nudge the member next to you (*who may be nodding off*) and ask him to second your motion. A vote to end the discussion will be held and, if approved, a vote on the business matter will be held.

Idea #2: If a business matter that was not previously scheduled for a vote has been brought up for discussion, **make a motion to table the matter** until a future meeting after the Board has had time to discuss it and send a proposal by email to members for further consideration.



Some of Jay's sale plants at the May Meeting



Members' sale plants at the May Meeting



Some of the Show & Tell plants at May meeting

Our meeting on July 17th will have Terrie Bert as the featured speaker