

# TROPICAL FERN AND EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY, INC. NEWSLETTER

Volume 17, Issue 30

June 2017

## President's Message

We had a great show and sale for 2017! Members brought a beautiful and very diverse assortment of plants for the show and there were many exceptional specimens. Our team of judges did a great job choosing among the many worthy contenders. In addition, a large variety of plants were on offer in the sale from Vendors and members, including some rare and unusual species.

Thanks to the generosity of Glenda Weed and others, we should have an especially nice raffle table for our June meeting.

I look forward to seeing you there.



Uncarina Grandidier  
2017 TFEPS SHOW & SALE

## MEETING REMINDER •

Monday, June 26, 2017 at 7:15 pm in the Garden House at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Corbin A

Topic: "10 Tropical Fruit Trees That Will Stand Tall in a Hurricane

—Preparing and Managing Your Fruit Trees for the Storm Ahead"

Guest Speaker: Jeff Wasielewski

Jeff Wasielewski is the Commercial Tropical Fruit Crops Extension Agent for UF/IFAS Extension Miami-Dade County. He is an expert horticulturist with 25 years of experience in the field. Jeff has a Master's degree in Education from the University of Miami and a Bachelor's degree in English from FIU. Jeff has been writing about, and teaching about tropical fruit and horticulture for over 20 years, and has also worked as an adjunct professor in horticulture at Miami-Dade College and as an outreach specialist at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. His goal is to assist all commercial tropical fruit growers in South Florida by providing current, science based information through classes, lectures, publications, videos, and social media.

## The Invisible Chemical Ballet

By John Banta

The complex chemical communications that occur all around us are quite astounding. Most life forms depend upon chemical signals to guide their actions. Actually, we only know of the world via chemicals as all our senses are converted by the nervous system into chemicals. When insects reproduce the males often chemically mark the female to render her less attractive to any other males. A small parasitic wasp takes advantage of this chemical marker to remain close to the gravid butterfly and when she lays her eggs on a plant the wasp inserts her eggs into the butterfly's eggs. Biological control is like a choreographed minuet controlled by chemicals that we are unaware of.

What a wonderful complex world we live in.

### REMINDER:

Remember we do NOT have meetings in either July or August.



#### Mounting Plaques

Made of 1" x 3" Pressure Treated Lumber

12" x 12" - \$ 8.00

15" x 15" - \$ 11.00

18" x 18" - \$ 15.00

24" x 24" - \$ 20.00

Contact – Bob Benaim

305-793-9755 or

bobbenaim@gmail.com

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TFEPS has done it again, staging and judging an amazing exhibit with some of the best examples of rare plants available in Florida. This year's exhibit was no exception to what visitors have grown used to seeing: gorgeous plants of rare species and displayed artfully to show them to best effect. The usual "suspects" were there, such as impressive *Platycerium* staghorn fern species, sprawling *Asplenium* birdnest ferns, unusual *Calathea* species, a cadre of rare fern genera and some new introductions to please the most experienced collectors.

The vendors had full tables at the onset of the sale, and left with a lot less than they came with, indicating good plant sales. Even the most experienced plant collectors find something irresistible for them to purchase at every sale, a certain marker that we as a society continue to grow and propagate the best plants. Having been a judge for this exhibit many times, I can attest to the difficulty in judging such well grown yet widely disparate plants, often in species and genera for which we know little data due to their novelty.

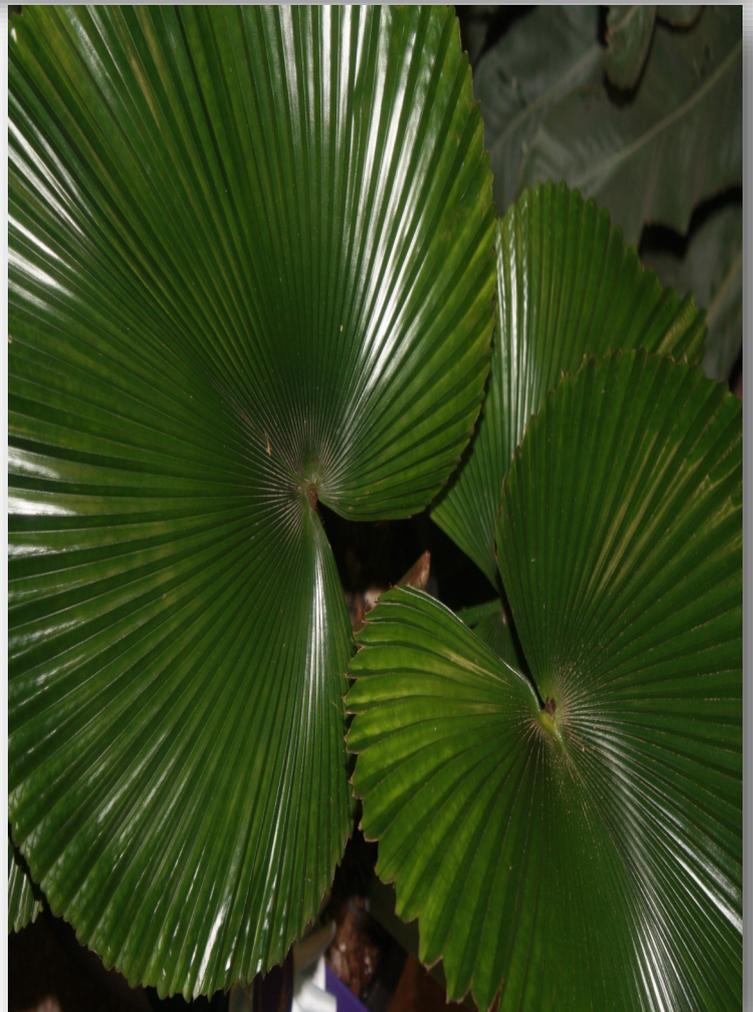
This year's specialty ribbon winners include:

- **Best Croton:** Jose Lopez – Hybrid 'Super Nova'
- **Best Native:** Glenda Weed – *Psilotum nudum*
- **Best Fern:** Tom Moore – *Huperzia gobelii*
- **Best Flowering Plant:** Chad Husby - *Euphorbia robirelonae*
- **Best in Show:** Scott Cohen - *Licuala cordata*
- **Most Unusual:** Scott Cohen - *Barringtonia Josephstaelensis*
- **Sweepstakes:** Glenda Weed won with 8 Blue Ribbons

Everyone who brought a plant or plants to the sale made the exhibit what it is: a great collection of fabulous plants, showing off the skills of the growers as well as educating the public and other growers about both rare plants and our society. We take pride in our hobby, and this exhibit clearly shows it.

- Craig Morell

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TFEPS 2017 SHOW & SALE

JUDGED BEST IN SHOW

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*Licuala Cordata*



TFEPS 2017  
SHOW & SALE  
JUDGED SWEEPSTAKES  
WINNER  
won  
with EIGHT BLUE  
RIBBONS  
[top]  
Microsorium



TFEPS 2017  
SHOW & SALE  
JUDGED BEST  
FLOWERING PLANT  
EUPHORBIA  
ROIVCLONAE



TFEPS 2017 SHOW & SALE  
JUDGED BEST FERN *HUPERZIA GOBELLII* [upper left]

THE TFEPS WEBSITE WILL HAVE MORE PHOTOS OF THE 2017 SHOW & SALE POSTED [SOON]

## 2017 OFFICERS:

President: **Chad Husby**

Vice President: **Georgia Tasker (305) 661-1039**

Secretary: **Craig Morell (305) 667-1173**

Treasurer: **Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755**

## DIRECTORS at LARGE:

**Vivian Waddell (305) 665-5168 [2017-2019]**

**Leonard Goldstein (305) 667-4609 [2017-2019]**

**Ellis Brown (305) 484-7997 [2016-2017]**

**Linda Bell (305) 484-7997 [2016-2017]**

## IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

**Marnie Valent**

## 2017 DIRECTORS:

The board consists of TFEPS officers, the immediate past president, and elected directors at large.



2017 TFEPS SHOW & SALE

## 2017 COMMITTEES:

### Hospitality:

**Emalyl Israel (305) 235-0886**

### Membership:

**Sherrin Smith (305) 213-2598**

**Sheila & Michael O'Dea (305) 253-4907**

### Raffle Table:

**Ralph Hernandez (786) 261-4856**

### Special Sales:

**Marie Nock (305) 232-2257**

### Show & Sales:

**Vivian Waddell (305) 665-5168**

### Webmaster:

**Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755**



## Membership Application - 2017

We offer 4 different memberships options:

Yearly: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 15.00 for individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 17.00 for two members at the same address

Lifetime: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 125.00 for individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 150.00 for two members at the same address

Yearly dues are for calendar year - January - December

This is for a New Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ or for Renewals: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Print

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H or C: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H or C: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code + 4: \_\_\_\_\_ + \_\_\_\_\_

**H** = Home Phone **C** = Cell Phone

Enclose check payable to: TFEPS

Please mail to: TFEPS – Membership

P.O. Box 902094

Homestead, Florida 33090-2094