

TROPICAL FERN AND EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 5

May 2019

MEETING REMINDER •

Monday, May 27, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Garden House

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden , Corbin A

Speaker: David Hernandez of Leaf Gardens

Program: the Amorphophallus species

David has grown many species of amorphophalli and last year won Best in Show at the International Aroid Society Show with one of his entries. David will give an engaging talk about the diversity of this interesting genus.

*He will bring plants for sale,

Refreshments will be served



David
Among his
amorphos

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear TFEPS Members:

I have some exciting news to share! I will be leaving on June 6 to do a 10-week internship at the Montverde-Butterfly Garden in Costa Rica. Living in Costa Rica is a dream come true and this opportunity came at just the right time.

I'll be living and working on-site in the cloud forest. I'm excited to get to do what I love — work with plants and insects — and learn more about entomology and science education. I won't have electricity and will have limited internet throughout the duration of my stay, a lifestyle some of you may remember from growing up. :) When I do have internet, I will post pictures and stories to my Facebook and Instagram accounts:

Arielle J. Simon (Facebook) and VeryAri85 (Instagram).

Our VP Mike Twyford will take over for the June meeting, and I should be back in September. I can't wait to share my adventure with all of you this coming Fall — Mike, you can count me in as a speaker. I hope to see all of you at our May meeting and at our upcoming Show and Sale. Feel free to give me tips, share connections, or shamelessly beg me to send back plants — my email address is simon.arielle@gmail.com.

I look forward to seeing you all one last time before the summer!

Your Humble President,
Arielle

Arielle J. Simon

American Society for Horticultural Science, Certified Horticulturist

Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA), Certified Horticulture Professional

Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association (FNGLA), Certified Landscape Technician

Landscape Inspector's Association of Florida, Certified Landscape Inspector

TFEPS

April 22, 2019 General Meeting

Attendance: 30

Treasury report: \$12,305.49

Raffle table presented by Ree Gardens and David Foster

Program: Mike Twyford, "Preparing for the Show & Sale"

Past TFEPS president Mike Twyford offered his insights on getting plants ready for competition. The longtime begonia enthusiast used some of his special plants to help illustrate his advice. He first showed a *Begonia globulosa*, which, despite having been in preparation awhile, could, he felt, still benefit from better symmetry and maybe even repotting. And, he noted, judges want to see blooms. They are also influenced by the use of fresh, clean pots. In TFEPS judging, leaf shine is permissible, as is mayonnaise.

In the stages of developing a plant for judging, it is beneficial to turn it periodically to counter leaning. And a plant can be staked if necessary. Mike feels that one month is plenty of time to whip a competition plant into shape.

When it comes to begonias in particular, Mike uses LED lighting to induce best growth (he added parenthetically that the Ft. Worth Botanical Garden possesses the largest collection of begonias in the world.)

With respect to potting soil, Mike employs biochar to increase mycorrhizae. Pro-Mix BX, also a source of mycorrhizae, is very useful. His overall soil formula consists of $\frac{1}{3}$ Pro-Mix, $\frac{1}{3}$ perlite, and $\frac{1}{3}$ New Zealand sphagnum moss, with biochar blended in. Biochar can be sprinkled on established plants, too.

Mike grows certain plants, such as *Impatiens claei* [a synonym of *I. mackeyana*], in mesh containers. He noted that plants in mesh pots sometimes grow too fast, but, on reflection, conceded that that's not necessarily bad.

Mike closed his program with one other observation about the presentation of competition plants: Judges frown on decorative stones in show plants. If necessary, sprinkle Pro-Mix on the surface of the soil.



WELCOME NEW TFEPS MEMBERS

SAM HODGE

KRISTEN CADAV



• PLEASE SHARE THE SHOW & SALE FLYER ON PAGE 6 WITH YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS •

FYI

Pinecrest Gardens, 12645 S. Pinecrest Parkway, Pinecrest, Florida

The South Florida Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Friday 10:00am ■ Saturday 9:00 am ■ Sunday 9:00 am

May 24-26, 2019

Mango Festival at Fairchild, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Celebrating the mangos of the Dominican Republic

Saturday ■ Sunday, July 13-14, 2019 ■ 9:30-4:30

21st Annual Mango Brunch, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Sunday, July 14, 2019 11:00 am

The beautiful TFEPS Show & Sale is right around the corner and has come together quite nicely. Unfortunately something has come up and the Weeds will not be able to attend. They send their best to everyone and look forward to seeing us next year.

This means that we will have 7 vendors participating and 14 members selling in the member sales area. We are looking forward to hosting a great show. I have adjusted our set-up to reflect the changes which will give each vendor a little more space and fill the room.

I am anxious to introduce you to Kristen Cadavieco, a new member. Kristen will shadow me and learn more about the ins & outs of the show so that she can run it next year as I take a break. She will be with us beginning to end and is looking forward to meeting everyone. Please make a point of saying hello to her.

See you soon,

Marnie



MOUNTING PLAQUES

Made of 1" x 3" Pressure Treated Lumber

12' x 12" - \$10.00 15' x 15" - \$13.00

18' x 18" - \$17.00 24" x 24" - \$25.00

Contact—Bob Benaim 305-793-9755 or,

bobbenaim@gmail.com

*The
Tropical Fern & Exotic Plant
Society*

Annual Show & Sale

June 1 & 2, 2019 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Garden House

10901 Old Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL 33157



The vendor sales area includes ferns, aroids, orchids, hoyas, crotons, bromeliads, heliconias, flowering trees and more.

Hope to see you there.

2019 OFFICERS:

President: **Arielle Simon (305) 588-5026** Vice President: **Mike Twyford (305) 525-7405**

Secretary: **Leonard Goldstein (305) 873-4105** Treasurer: **Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755**

2018-2019 DIRECTORS at LARGE:

Ellis Brown (305) 484-7997 **Paul Marcellini (305) 299-0690**

2019-2020 DIRECTORS at LARGE:

Chad Husby (321) 474-2753 **Martha Kent (305) 667-3197**

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:

Marni Valent (305) 233-5929

2019 DIRECTORS:

The 2019 TFEPS Board of Directors consists of TFEPS officers, the Immediate Past President, and the Directors at Large.

2019 COMMITTEES:

Hospitality:

Emaly Israel (305) 235-0886

Membership:

Sherrin Smith (305) 213-2598

Raffle Table:

Ralph Hernandez (786) 261-4856

Special Sales:

Marie Nock (305) 232-2257

Webmaster:

Bob Benaim (305) 793-9755

Newsletter Editor:

Janet Reed (305) 510-3891

Show & Sales:

Vivian Waddell (305) 665-5168



Membership Application - 2019

YEARLY DUES ARE FOR CALENDAR YEAR JANUARY—DECEMBER

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

This is for a New Membership: _____ or for Renewal: _____

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