



# Midwest Cactus and Succulent Society

\*\*\*\*\* APRIL 2015 MEETING NOTICE \*\*\*\*\*

**Location:** Cleveland Botanical Garden  
Smith Classroom  
11030 East Blvd  
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

**R.S.V.P:** 440-983-4624  
or kdsnell@roadrunner.com

**Food:** Finger foods / snacks

**Date:** Sunday April 19, 2015

**Time:** 1:00 – 4:00

**Topic:** "A Bromeliad Voyage through Ecuador"

**Plant of the month:** Bromeliads

## **WE HAVE A VERY SPECIAL PROGRAM SPEAKER THIS MONTH!**

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be April 19, 2015 at Cleveland Botanical Garden in Cleveland's University Circle area. This is a joint meeting with the Cleveland Indoor Garden Society and a special guest speaker will talk about his beloved bromeliads. We meet in the Smith Classroom on the parking garage level, down the hall past the security office. There is no CBG admission fee to attend club functions. Bring snacks to share. Guests are always welcome and we are inviting any horticulture groups interested. Please send me your RSVP for seating accommodations. Let's have a big audience at this meeting!

**Program:** Jerry Raack, past director and president of Bromeliad Society International and discoverer of several new species of Bromeliads will present "A Bromeliad Voyage through Ecuador". Jerry will talk about his trips to Ecuador searching for bromeliads, other interesting plants seen and the culture of the Ecuadorian people. He will also discuss growing bromeliads in our collections.

Here is a short bio on Jerry:

Jerry was born in Akron, raised in Tallmadge and attended OSU where he graduated with a BS degree in Mathematics and Computer Science, and he also obtained an MS degree in Computer Science from Purdue University. He worked for AT&T and Lucent Technologies for 35 years before retiring in 2001.

Jerry became interested in Bromeliads when his brother gave him a plant for Christmas one year. His interest has increased over the years and he has been the director, then president of the Bromeliad Society International for many years. He has made numerous collecting trips into Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Peru and has discovered several new species of Bromeliads. *Tillandsia raackii* is named after him.

He still goes collecting; although, government regulations has made it impossible to bring plants into the US, so now he is collecting seed and pictures. He is currently working with Jose Manzanares of Quito, Ecuador in translating and editing Jose's 3rd volume of his book scientifically describing and picturing all of the bromeliads found in Ecuador.

**Sad FYI:** On March 27, 2015 we lost our beloved friend and long time club member, Joe Vondrasek. Joe died peacefully with Alzheimer's, one year after his wife Aubrey. The club sent a plant to the family.

I want to thank everyone for the help and hard work that went into making our March show a success! If you took any pictures at the show, bring them on your digital media to show and make copies for our club archives. Hope to see everyone there for this special meeting! Don't forget to RSVP.

Karen Snell  
Secretary, MWCSS  
440-983-4624 (home)  
440-415-3949 (cell)

### Directions to Cleveland Botanical Garden:

11030 East Blvd in the University Circle/Wade Park area of Cleveland, 5 miles east of downtown  
From I-90 Lakeshore Memorial Freeway: Exit on Martin Luther King Drive and go south. Cross E 105<sup>th</sup> and follow the traffic circle to right and turn left at Wade Park Oval by Art Museum. Parking garage and CBG is straight ahead at the end of East Blvd