

# The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, December 09, 2018 1:30pm.  
Colony in the Wood – club house  
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

## Merry Christmas 2018!

December, 2018

**President – Rick Ryals 386/679-8700**

**Co-Vice Presidents – Jane Villa-Lobos and Hedy Quirk  
386/446-0341 and 386/427-2314**

**Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499**

**Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041**

### Annual FECBS holiday dinner!

If you were hoping for a boring business meeting, you might want to skip our December gathering – because it will consist only of good will, great food, a 50/50 raffle and a chance to compete in our annual holiday centerpiece competition!

The club will provide the main course for the luncheon, the plates and cutlery, and the beverages. You, our membership, are asked to bring the side dishes and desert.



A blast from the past – Francisco carving a ham for 2013 Christmas party.

We circulated a sign-up sheet at the November meeting but if you didn't get a chance to see it, please contact the officers if you are wondering what to bring. This will hopefully avoid finding out at the last minute

that everyone has decided to bring their family's infamous lima bean, beet, and squid casserole. Of course, if everyone decided to bring their favorite brownie recipe, I for one would not be too disappointed!

Now, if you are unfamiliar with a 50/50 raffle, here's how it works: you buy (*that means you may need to bring some money with you. Tickets will be \$5 each*) a ticket or tickets for this raffle. You keep half of each ticket and the other half goes into a bowl. Meanwhile, the money from the sale of all tickets goes into a separate container. The winning ticket is drawn and if it is your ticket, you win half of the total amount that was taken in from ticket sales. The other half of the money goes to the club.



Last year's winner of the centerpiece competition – Jean Hochdorfer.

2016 winner by Bryan Manion

Also, as in past years we will be having a centerpiece competition at this meeting – so, let your imagination run wild and let's see what you can create (using

bromeliads of course!) around a Christmas theme. The membership will pick the winner and there will be a prize for the winner. The winner from two years ago was featured in the Bromeliad Society International Journal, so this is your ticket to fame and fortune...well, maybe fame...probably not so much fortune.

(Editor's note – if the last few paragraphs seem familiar to you, they should be. They were lifted and reprinted from last year's newsletter...all part of our newsletter conservation efforts!)

### **Last month's meeting –**

Tom and Carol Wolfe visited us for our November meeting and Tom presented a very interesting program on Neoregelias with photos of over 100 different species and hybrids.



Sherry consults Tom regarding her selection of a new Neoregelia.

The photos alone made for a terrific program, but Tom's narrative regarding each of those plants gave a fascinating insight into this group of bromeliads.

Did you know that there were 54 members in attendance at that November meeting? It's easy to see that we have a very active group with many members looking forward to each month's meeting.



Just one of the many beautiful Neoregelias for sale at last month's meeting.

Tom brought a broad selection of bromeliad for sale from his nursery and even donated a beautiful poster for our raffle from the 10<sup>th</sup> BSI World Conference, autographed by the conference chair!



"I want that one!" Frankie Breslin points to her selection.

Thank you Tom and Carol!

Also at last month's meeting we heard from our Nominating Committee regarding their recommendations for officers to take over with the new year. The recommendations were unanimously approved so here is our slate of officers for **2019**:

**Co-Presidents – Jack Dunlop and Chuck Mamele**

**Vice-President – Bill Hazard**

**Secretary – Ruth Gessner**

**Treasurer – Eve Krauth**

**Time to Renew –**

In addition to being the holiday season, it's membership renewal season! We don't have a pledge drive like the good folks in public broadcasting and we don't play on your sympathies by mailing out cute pictures of sad-eyed puppies asking you to please adopt them before it is too late. Instead, once a year we simply ask you to renew your FECBS membership. One of the great bargains of our time, annual dues are still only \$15 for a single membership or \$20 for a family. Either mail your dues to our treasurer or see her at the meeting – she'll be only too happy to take your money (that's something that treasurers love to do!).

#### **Out and About –**



Bill Hazard sent us this photo while driving on US27 – a fine looking pineapple and capped by an equally attractive osprey nest!

Send in your photos and articles about bromeliad events, blooms in your garden, or newspaper and magazine articles that may be of interest to our members. Email to [cajat@aol.com](mailto:cajat@aol.com) or mail to Jay Thurrott, 713 Breckenridge Dr., Port Orange Fl. 32127.

#### **Consider Becoming a Bromeliad Show Judge –**

This is a great opportunity! Plans for next series of Judging School classes are now underway. See Calandra or Jay for more details.

#### **Name Changes Revisited –**

It's enough to drive anyone crazy! It's hard enough to remember the names of many of the bromeliads that we see at our meetings. Last month at Show and Tell we had what was formerly *Tillandsia cyanea* and explained that now the same plant has been reclassified and sports the new name of *Wallisia cyanea*.



No longer *Tillandsia cyanea*, but *Wallisia cyanea* still produces beautiful cyan-blue flowers.

Well, at the same meeting we also had an example of the soft-leaved *Tillandsia venusta* that was just coming into bloom. I've now been informed that *Tillandsia venusta* is *the old name!* This plant was reclassified in 2017 and now is labelled *Racinaea venusta*. Native to Columbia and Costa Rica, we don't often see this plant in bromeliad collections. It seems to do well in Port Orange and hasn't required any extraordinary care. I wouldn't say that the bloom is spectacular, but the fragrance of the pure white flowers makes this a bromeliad that is a bit out of the ordinary.



*Racinaea venusta* –the white flowers are fragrant in the evening and early morning!

Maybe using permanent markers on plant labels is a mistake – maybe we should use something easily erasable so that we can keep up with name changes as they occur!

**Looking ahead:**

**November 10-12, 2018**

Fairchild Botanic Garden -10901 Old Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL 33156  
Fall Garden Festival, featuring the 77th Annual Ramble. Plants, food, music, cooking, antiques, arts, crafts, books.

**November 12, 2018**

Sarasota Bromeliad Society sale and auction.  
Selby Gardens, 811 S. Palm, Sarasota  
6-9pm in the Great Room

**January 16-19, 2019**

TPIE (Tropical Plant Industry Exhibition)  
Broward County Convention Center  
1950 Eisenhower Blvd.  
Fort Lauderdale, Fl. 33316

**March 16-17, 2019**

Bromeliad Society of South Fl. annual show and sale at Fairchild Botanic Gardens  
10901 Old Cutler Rd.  
Coral Gables, FL 33156

**March 23, 24, 2019**

Kanapaha Gardens Spring Garden Festival  
Gainesville, FL

Remote Parking with shuttle service available at:

Celebration Pointe & Bass Pro Area:  
4526 SW Archer Rd. Gainesville, FL 32608  
9am – 5pm each day \$8 admission adults \$5 admission children under 13. 150 booths offering plants, landscape displays, garden accessories, arts and crafts, educational exhibits and foods.

**April 6, 2019**

Master Gardener's sale at Volusia County Fairgrounds. Half Day sale only!

