

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Sunday, January 12th, 1:30p.m.

Note the meeting time – it's back to normal!

Meet at LaCosta Village - 1275 LaCosta Blvd.

January, 2020

Welcome to the year 2020!

Co-Presidents – Jack Dunlop and Chuck Mamale
386/317-0054 386/402-4830

Vice President – Bill Hazard 386/882-3850

Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499

Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041

Editor—Jay Thurrott 386-761-4804

This Month's Meeting: Hypertufa!

Not just ordinary, run of the mill “tufa” (yes, there is such a thing), but Hypertufa. And, if you don't know what that is, Wikipedia defines hypertufa as “... an anthropic rock made from various aggregates bonded together using Portland cement.” When formed into a pot, this material looks like stone, but is much lighter and, more importantly, is porous. This suggests that it just might be a good material to use for potting up bromeliads. Come and see for yourself at our January meeting.

Last Month's Meeting:

There was no meeting last month – just good times at our annual Christmas party!



Great food – and once again we owe Francisco Cardoso a debt of gratitude for his role as *'chef extraordinaire!'*



Our members really outdid themselves with this year's centerpiece contest. There was some tough competition, but when the votes were tallied it was Kathy Dunlop who won the award for best centerpiece. Congratulations Kathy!



Kathy Dunlop's winning arrangement. Photo by Calandra

All of the centerpieces looked great and you all should be proud of your artistry! Here they all are:





Birthdays for January:

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Virginia Dornbach	Erna Jones
Chuck Mamele	Jacque Mamele
Belinda McCarthy	Kricket Petrovich
Laura King	Fiona Murphy

Out and About:

Jane Vila-Lobos sent us these photos from her beautiful yard in Palm Coast. Winter is often the time for Billbergias to put on their show by suddenly sending up an inflorescence. This one is B. 'Fiesta' - a nice little Don Beadle hybrid cross of Billbergia 'Poquito Blanco' X Billbergia pyramidalis.



The second photo is of one of my favorites: *Tillandsia ionantha*. This little gem will grow into a ball shaped cluster of plants with a little encouragement and Jane must have provided just what they needed!



Calandra and I were in Ft. Myers last month for the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society's Show and Sale, saw some really beautiful plants in the show, and even had an opportunity to pick up a few bromeliads to bring home with us!



Just a few of the many *Cryptanthus* entries in the show.



The sales area at the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society show. We also couldn't resist visiting the Edison House while we were in Ft. Myers and greeted by this beautiful bromeliad tree at the entrance.



Statue of Thomas Edison with a bromeliad Christmas tree under a huge banyan tree.

Announcements:

Are you a member of BSI? That's the Bromeliad Society International, in case you were wondering. They are a wonderful organization and if you are not currently a member, they have just announced a terrific deal that you should seriously consider taking advantage of. Now, for a limited time during their current membership drive you can join BSI for just \$15!!! This is a one-time only special rate and it applies only if you are not currently a BSI member or have been a member in the recent past (in other words, it doesn't apply to renewals). Give it a try, after all, there's not much that you can buy for \$15 and this will give you a full one-year membership and allows you to register for the upcoming BSI World Conference in Sarasota. To take advantage of this opportunity visit the BSI website at www.bsi.org for your membership application and further details.



**BROMELIAD SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

Sunday, March 29, 2019

SELL PLANTS AND KEEP ALL YOUR TAKE!

If you want to set up a table and tent, you can bring any plants and related items to sell in the GARDEN OF EDEN!!!

One of our members, Roberta Sappington, is on the board of the Jewish Heritage Festival. They want pretty plants to grace a large area beside the Halifax River.

This large gathering which is held every 2 years in Ormond Beach will be at Rockefeller Gardens. It is similar in size and scope to Port Orange's Family Days. Though vendors must pay \$300-\$500 per space, they are not charging Garden of Eden sellers anything at all. Roberta needs to tell the board by February 1st how many tables and/or tents our folks want to bring so they can give an arrival and set up time that morning. Roberta has a banner that says GARDEN OF EDEN and can answer your questions

at rivkasap@aol.com.

Looking ahead:

January 18, 2020

Water-Wise Garden Fair
9am-12noon
200 Canal St., New Smyrna Beach

February 1,2 2020

Gardenfest
Riverside Park
3250 Riverside Park Dr.
Vero Beach 32963

February 22nd, 2020

First Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies meeting of 2020 – to be hosted by FECBS (that’s us!) We’ll talk about this at the January meeting)

March 26-29, 2020

Bromeliad Society of South Florida
Annual Spring Show
March 26-29, 2020 Garden House 10901 Old
Cutler Road Coral Gables, FL 33156
(always a great show that also includes a
large section of student art.)

April 11,12, 2020

39th International Orchid and Bromeliad
Show
Flamingo Gardens
3750 S. Flamingo Rd.
Davie, FL

May 1, 2020

Redland International Orchid Show
Fruit and Spice Park
24801 SW 187th Ave.
Homestead, FL

June 9-13, 2020

The BSI World Bromeliad
Conference 2020 will be held in Sarasota,
Florida from Tuesday, June 9, 2020 through
Saturday, June 13, 2020 at the [Hyatt
Regency Sarasota](#).

They will celebrate the 70th Anniversary of
the Bromeliad Society International! Events
will include tours of two of the world’s
leading Bromeliad nurseries (Michael’s
Bromeliads and Tropiflora), a visit to the
renowned Marie Selby Botanical
Gardens (with free admission for conference
registrants), a number of notable speakers, an
opening conference reception and welcome
address, a banquet with a rare plant sale and
auction, a plant sale with numerous sellers, a
fantastic judged plant show, and more.

The BSI has arranged for a special \$149
room rate at the Hyatt Regency
Sarasota (with no resort fees, normally \$24+

daily) with free parking for hotel guests and
conference visitors. All the rooms at the
Hyatt provide water views and the hotel has a
central downtown location with easy access
to gardens, restaurants, museums, shopping,
cultural activities, and world-renowned
beaches. In order to catch all the planned
events for WBC 2020, you would check into
the hotel on Tuesday night, June 9th and stay
through Saturday night, June 13th (checking
out on Sunday). Of course, with all there is
do in Sarasota and other nearby areas in
Florida, you may want to extend your stay.
BSI Members may register for
the hotel and conference by going to
the members section. We recommend
reserving your hotel room as soon as possible
since a limited number of rooms at the
special rate are available.



A visit to Tropiflora will be one of the tours for the conference



Michaels Bromeliads will also be one of the tour destinations.

