

THE FLORIDA EAST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

March 2023 Newsletter

**Meeting Location: La Costa Village Clubhouse, 1275 La Costa Blvd.
Port Orange, FL**

March 12th Meeting

Anthony Warfield will speak on the genus *Cryptanthus* discussing the typical features of this bromeliad genus as well as its cultivation. He will have plants for sale including: *Aechmea*, *Cryptanthus*, *Forzzaea*, *Tillandsia* and others. He will accept cash and credit/debit cards.

There will be refreshments, a bromeliad raffle, and show and tell. I hope to see everyone then.
--- Jack

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies request your support!

The Extravaganza will be held in West Palm Beach July 28-29, and FCBS is asking clubs to participate. FECBS members can contribute by looking around for those Rare and/or Beautiful plants to provide to the Auction! Our club has been asked to send 5 plants or bromeliad related items. You'll need to designate a member to get your plants safely to the site.

Another way we can contribute is by creating plant related raffle baskets. Show others how creative you can be! Add some gardening tools and a bottle of wine. This is an easy way to volunteer your time to Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

More information will be discussed at the March meeting. Thank you, Calandra Thurrott

Native Bromeliads to Central Florida

In February the Florida Native Plant Society released a YouTube video on Native Bromeliads to Central Florida by Valerie Anderson. It covers 11 species of *Tillandsia*: *balbisiana*, *bartramii*, *fasciculata*, *floridana*, *paucifolia*, *recurvata*, *setacea*, *simulata*, *usneoides*, *utriculata*, and *Tillandsia x smalliana* (a natural hybrid). Distribution maps in Central Florida and threatened status are given for each species based on the *Atlas of Florida Plants*. Keep in mind these are documented records for Central Florida. There are other bromeliads which are native to the state. These are included in *Native Bromeliads of Florida* by Harry E. Luther and David H. Benzing (2009). (https://www.youtube.com/live/WyMUbfH_jlI?feature=share).



Rooting Tips

Tom Wolfe wrote a very informative article in the February 2023 issue of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Society's newsletter which was sent to all our members. If you have not read it yet, here are a few excerpts:

“When rooting Neo. fireballs or other small neoregelias, try placing them in a tray of moist perlite for about a month. By doing so they very seldom lose their color. Then place them in your regular bromeliad mix and don't shake off the perlite that clings to the roots. This will maintain foliage color which is essential for neos. The best time to root bromeliads is in early spring when days are beginning to lengthen. However, some plants are bloomed out and spent in the fall or winter months and are busy producing pups. There is no problem taking the pups off and potting them when they are one-third the size of the mother plant or larger. Add a small pinch (1/4 teaspoon) of fertilizer on the surface of the potting mix. But don't expect much growth to start until March or the first part of April. If you have a rare plant that is spent and the pup or pups have been removed, try the “empty pot culture.” Place the spent plant upright in an empty clay pot for ballast and hopefully it will produce another pup or two. Place the pot in normal conditions for light, air, and water and check periodically for new pups.

If you decide to mount a plant, select one that is one-third to one-half grown with no roots or very few roots. When the plant begins to root, it will root to the mount. A fully grown plant has already produced all of its roots; therefore, it will never attach to the mount until the pups mature enough to do so.”

We love to see pictures of bromeliads in our members' gardens



Billbergia 'Tarantello'
(Photo: Judy Rafter)



Guzmania
(Photo: Sherrie Thompson)



Aechmea nudicaulis rubra
(Photo: Jane Villa-Lobos)



Billbergia 'Hallelujah'
(Photo: Jane Villa-Lobos)



B. 'Hallelujah' flower
(Photo: Calandra Thurrott)



Aechmea 'Perez'
(Photo" Jane Villa-Lobos)



Tillandsia 'Canina'
(Photos: Calandra Thurrott)



T. 'Canina'



Billbergia nutans
(Photo: Rosie Byard)

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 Jane at saravillalobos387@gmail.com.

Birthdays for March:



Greetings to these members: Rosie Byard, Francisco Cardoso, Janet Correia, Judith Davies, Pat Esmont, Mike Fink, Bill Hazard, Tree Hazard, Eve Krauth, Pat Matthews, Shelly Merrill, Bobbie Moore, Vicki Teel, Greg Wilson.

Future Events

March 18

Plant Faire

Volusia County Fairgrounds
3100 New York Ave.
DeLand, FL
8:30 – noon (cash or check only)

March 18-19

Annual Spring Garden Festival

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
4700 SW 58th Dr.
Gainesville, FL
9 – 5 Garden Admission: \$10 each day

April 5-9

Spring in the Garden Annual Sale

3016 S. Peninsula Dr.
Daytona Beach Shores, FL
9 – close

April 8

***The Garden Club at Palm Coast
Spring Festival & Plant Sale***

Flagler/Palm Coast High School
5500 E. Highway 100
Palm Coast, FL 9-4

April 14-15

***Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant
Society***

Plant Sale

200 Fairmont Dr.
Sanford, FL
8:30 - 4

July 28-29

Extravaganza

Marriott Hotel
1001 Okeechobee Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL
fcbsextravaganza.org Register by April 30
(\$150)
Plant Sale open to the public July 29th 9 - 4

August 19-20

***Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant
Society***

Plant Sale

200 Fairmont Dr.
Sanford, FL
8:30 – 4

Co-Presidents - Jack Dunlop 386-317-0054

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Secretary - Ruth Gessner 386-767-3499

Treasurer - Eve Krauth 386-871-1041

