

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, April 14th, 2019 1:30pm.
Colony in the Wood – club house
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

April, 2019

April Showers Bring...

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

Hopefully we will have some April showers - and that should bring some great bromeliad blooms! April however, can also be a really dry month (as in – no rain at all for the entire month!), so you will need to monitor your plants to ensure that they don't dry out too badly during this month.

Master Gardener's Plant Faire – Saturday, April 6th

Besides showers, April is also known for the Volusia County Master Gardener's Plant Faire. FECBS has been a regular participant in this event for many years now and I always look forward to this great event, it's brief (only a half day sale!) and an opportunity to sell some of those surplus bromeliads that are currently taking up space that could be used by...more bromeliads! If you have more bromeliads than you know what to do with, this is your chance to bring your surplus plants to the Volusia County fairgrounds (3100 E. New York Avenue, Deland – or, just a stone's throw away from I-4), get some fresh air tending our sales booth, and make a few dollars in the process – that you can spend on the same day purchasing more plants from the many plant vendors who will be selling their wares from 8:30 until noon on Saturday, April 6th.

If you plan on bringing plants for sale, we would enjoy your company if you decide to stay, but you are also welcome to simply drop your plants off at our sales booth and we'll take it from there. The same sales rules apply that we have had in effect for years at all of our sales. These are:

- 1. Plants must be clean and free of any disease or pests. This is important! Any dirty or scale-ridden plants will be rejected and returned to their owners-who will then bear the shame of schlepping them home again.**
- 2. Each plant must have two tags – one of which will have the plant name on it and the other must have your name or initials on it and the price that you wish to sell the plant for. This is the only way that our Treasurer has to know who to make the check out to for your plants that were sold.**
- 3. When the plant is sold, the new owner keeps the tag with the name and we keep the tag that says the sales price with your name on it.**

Simple enough, right? It's up to you to set a price (whole dollar amounts only please – no 99¢ specials!) for each of your plants, get the plants to the fairgrounds, and pick up any that went unsold at the end of the sale(noon). Those of us who are tending the booth will take care of the rest.

Last month's meeting –

There was truly something for everyone in the "Tips, Tricks, and Sleight of Hand" program. We had 8 different members share information with us and I think that for a 'first time' attempt, this went very well. For those who missed the meeting: Calandra gave us some tips on grooming bromeliads to look their best (sleight of hand?).



Calandra demonstrates preparing a bromeliad for show. Bill noted that as nice as having a fold-up cart can be when attending a sale, it can be important to personalize your cart to avoid confusion with others who may have a similar looking cart.

Jane U. passed along some great tips on ways to minimize the expense of pots and potting mixes.



Jane Upham, assisted by Roberta Sappington shows some yard sale treasures.

Judith showed us some of her favorite and most used garden tools. She also noted how easy it is to lose those tools while working in the garden and found that making them in bright colors helps, but they still may get lost on occasion.

Jane V-L showed us the importance of garden gloves with extended gauntlets to protect your arms when working with bromeliads.



Jane shows us some gloves with extra protection for your forearms.

Chuck briefed us on the Monarch Joint Venture to conserve and protect monarch butterflies.



Chuck briefed us on the difficulties monarch butterflies are facing.

Stanley shared some ideas for cold weather protection and showed a multiple blooming *Tillandsia utriculata*.



Have you ever seen multiple inflorescences like this from one *T. utriculata*?

Jack showed how to make use of pot hangers and fence staples for mounting bromeliads.



Clips can be attached to a board that will support a pot of bromeliads.

Whether you were new to the world of bromeliads or a seasoned veteran, I think we all came away from last month's meeting with some new ideas to improve our skills in growing bromeliads.

Also from last month's meeting:

Isn't it always the case – you want to bring a plant for Show and Tell, but the bloom isn't quite at its peak, and you know that if you wait until next month that bloom will have passed its best appearance. In this instance, the plant was a pot of *Dyckia* 'June' sporting 4 bloom spikes, but the flowers hadn't opened yet. Here's what they looked like just one week later:



Bright yellow flowers on *Dyckia* June.

Judges School:

We've been informed that a firm date has been established for the first class of judges' school. It will be on Saturday, May 4th in Fort Myers. For more information, contact either the Thurrotts or Betty Ann Prevatt (bprevattpcc@aol.com). This is a wonderful opportunity that will not likely be repeated for quite a few years, so sign up now!

Birthdays for April:

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Irene Aldrich	Michele Kelley
Jane Molnar	Eretta Morris
Hedy Quirk	Roberta Sappington
Rose Vincel	

Have you renewed your membership?

Aaah...so maybe that's why you're not receiving your newsletter? Don't put it off a minute more – send your annual membership dues to Eve Krauth. \$15 for a single membership, \$20 for your whole family. Now that's a real bargain!

Out and About:

We really appreciate all of the beautiful photos that our members have been providing of bromeliads in their homes and yards. Please, keep them coming!

First up this month is a wonderful multiple of what appears to be Neoregelia Sheba grown by Ron and Marsha Tucholski. What a great plant, and this one is grown to perfection!



Large clump of beautifully variegated Neoregelias.
Photo by Calandra Thurrott

I'm always look forward to see what Charlotte Mueller has been up to lately. She lives in a condominium and has perfected her growing techniques to fit that environment. Charlotte uses many of the smaller bromeliad varieties in combination with arranged shells, driftwood and other items to make truly imaginative scenes. Here are some photos that she has shared of her latest creations:



Charlotte continues to show us that you don't have to have a greenhouse to be able to grow some great looking bromeliads. These same plants can then be displayed indoors in some imaginative arrangements.



Just beautiful! Thank you Charlotte.

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 or mail to Jay Thurrott, 713 Breckenridge Dr., Port Orange Fl. 32127

Looking ahead:

April 5-7, 2019 Tropiflora's 19th Annual Spring Festival and Open House. 8am – 3pm Tallevast, Fl.

April 6, 2019

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

April 13 – 14, 2019

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale

Location: The Garden Club of Sanford, 200 Fairmont Drive, Sanford 9:00 - 4:00

In air-conditioned building

Huge selection of bromeliads in many genera, orchids, aroids, gingers, other tropical plants, gift baskets, hand crafted slat baskets in several sizes. Members will be available to answer your questions.

May 4, 5, 2019

If you happen to be in the Houston Texas area...check out the Bromeliad Society of Houston's 47th annual bromeliad show and sale at the Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Drive, Houston TX 77004

May 10–12, 2019

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Annual Mother's Day Show and Sale Fashion Square Mall, 3201 E. Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32803 Friday and Saturday: 10 am – 9 pm Sunday: 11 am– 6 pm

May 10, 2019

Mother's Day Volusia County Orchid Society Show and Sale at Volusia County Fairgrounds

June 9 -13, 2020 I know – that's a long way ahead, but it will be here before you realize, so you should start your plans today for the BSI World Conference (WBC2020)

in Sarasota, Fl. Watch future newsletters for details!

August 17 – 18, 2019

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In air-conditioned building

Huge selection of bromeliads in many genera, orchids, aroids, gingers, other tropical plants, gift baskets, hand crafted slat baskets in several sizes. Members will be available to answer your questions.



September 20 – 21, 2019

2019 Bromeliad Extravaganza

Sponsored by the Florida Council of



Bromeliad Societies and hosted by the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida.

Registration is \$100/person

which Saturday night Italian buffet, raffle and silent auction, seminars and rare plant auction.

Location: [SpringHill](#)

[Suites](#) & [TownePlace Suites](#), 8040 Palm Parkway, Orlando Lake Buena Vista (near Disney Springs). This is a Marriott

property with the two hotels being connected. The rate will be \$85 per night (taxes are additional). When you make your reservations you must mention The Bromeliad Extravaganza for this special rate. You can call today. The hotels will also have a limited number of rooms 5 days before and 5 days after at the same rate for those that might wish to make a vacation at Walt Disney World or the other area attractions. This rate also includes a complimentary hot breakfast. The rooms at Towneplace Suites include a kitchenette. The rooms at SpringHill Suites include a mini fridge and microwave and a pull out (trundle) sofa bed. So make sure which hotel you prefer when you call to make your reservations, either SpringHill or Towneplace. You can call and make your reservations and mention The Bromeliad Extravaganza for your special rate. You can call today. No Extravaganza registration is required. Either 407-635-8500 or 407-239-4005. The hotels have provided a link for online registration for this event. The \$85 rate is good from Tuesday, September 17th to Tuesday, September 24th. The taxes are an additional 12.5% which comes out to \$21.25, so your confirmation should show \$191.25 for two nights. Last day to book is Saturday August 17th.

