

# The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 1:30pm.  
Colony in the Wood – club house  
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

May, 2015

## Orchids and Bromeliads Play Well Together!

**President – Bill Hazard 386/882-3850**  
**Vice President – Linda Stagnol 386/212-8138**  
**Secretary – Ed Meiser 386/785-4830**  
**Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041**

The Volusia County Orchid Society invited us to have a bromeliad display at their annual Mother's Day show and sale and thank heavens we have someone like Ron Tucholski in our membership roster. Ron has been constructing award winning table-top orchid displays for many years and volunteered to head up an FECBS bromeliad display for this event.

Ron was also our speaker for last month's meeting where he demonstrated how to build a table-top display using some appropriate draping to cover a latticework piece, cut stems and leaves from common garden materials and, of course – a few bromeliads. Quite amazing how quickly it all came together for an impressive look!



Ron demonstrates some of the techniques used to build an effective display...



starting with a few basic materials!

Ron will be at the Volusia County Fairgrounds on S.R. 44 in Deland on Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup> to begin on the FECBS display and can use your help, so please look through your bromeliad collections, select something colorful and/or eye-catching and come out to the fairgrounds to play a part in this project. This is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public and demonstrate that bromeliads are really excellent companion plants to orchids (or maybe the other way around!). Even if you don't have plants to loan for the display, stop by and say "Hi" on Thursday. For those with plants in the

display - you can pick up your plants on Sunday at 4pm.

**President's Message –**

*Fellow Bromelians - In a couple of days, my family and I will be ready to leave for Seattle and Vancouver to do some exploring. Of course, while visiting I will be seeing numerous arboretums and gardens.... I wonder what kind of bromeliads they grow in the great northwest....hmmm? Looking at Seattle first, there's the Washington Park Arboretum and Volunteer Park Conservatory. In Vancouver there's the University of British Columbia Botanical Gardens, Nitobe Memorial Gardens and Van Dusen Gardens. Ok, now some of the bromeliads I can expect to see....conifers (no), maples (no), rhododendron, camellias, dogwoods and cherries (no, no, no & no)! Where are all the bromeliads? Well, in Volunteer Park there is a large greenhouse. Surely there's a nice collection of Aechmeas, Dyckias and Neoreglia's? Ok, here's their list.... cactus (no), succulents (no), orchids (no) and tropical/subtropical plants YES!!!...I think, maybe. Well, all is not lost because there are plenty of breweries, wineries and incredible views to distract me from the potential let down. Somehow I will make it through the drudgery. They just don't know what they're missing, do they?*

*I'd also like to thank the members who have helped with the recent shows, sales and events. Your time, plants and service are appreciated! Thank you, too, for those who brought in food donations for my church's food pantry. Every bit helps! Thanks so much.*

*Bill*

**Visit to Plants and Things – the Aldriches' nursery in Ocala**

A map to the nursery is on the last page. Plan on arriving at 10:30am on Sat., May 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Pineapple birdbath at the Aldriches' nursery  
Plants will be for sale of course!

**Out and about....**

Springtime is always a busy time for plant sales and bromeliad shows and this year was no exception. Some of us had the opportunity to head south for an all too brief visit to Fairchild Gardens in Coral Gables where the Bromeliad Society of South Florida had their 34<sup>th</sup> annual show and sale. For those of you who attended this event in past years, you know what I mean when I say this is truly a spectacular show in a spectacular setting – made all the more so by the ongoing Chihuly glass display set among the gardens...but why try to describe this in the newsletter when words simply don't do it justice? Instead, we'll take you there in photos from the show and the gardens for our program this month. If you missed out on the chance to attend this show, this will be the next best thing to being there (and it won't involve a 4 hour drive each way!).



Chihuly glass sculptures in pond near the gardens exit.

If you ever get the opportunity to visit other bromeliad clubs around the state, I highly recommend it. Not long ago I had the opportunity to pay a visit to the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay – great bunch of people (let’s face it – bromeliad people are all a great bunch!) and they conduct some very interesting meetings. On this occasion, one of their members, Kenneth Stokes, put on a brief workshop focused on bromeliad leaves and had gone to great lengths to bring in a ‘show and tell’ board on which he had attached numerous different types of bromeliad leaves to demonstrate certain features of the types of plants that they represented. Great workshop and an interesting approach to helping club members identify different types of bromeliads!



Kenneth Stokes with examples of different types of bromeliad leaves. Photo by Calandra Thurrott

### **Birthdays for May:**

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Jane Culpeppar	Ruth Gessner
Audrey Hayes	Robert Jacks
Terry Kahn	Mally Trzeciak
Jillian Raggia	Brendan Robinson

### **Looking ahead:**

#### **May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

Field trip to Ocala to visit George and Irene Aldrich’s ‘Plants and Things’ bromeliad nursery. Take Highway40 from Ormond

Beach toward Ocala and follow the map on the last page when you see Silver Springs.

#### **May 9-10, 2015**

Volusia County Orchid Society 20<sup>th</sup> annual orchid show and sale at the Volusia County Fairgrounds. 9am to 4pm both days. \$5 admission (\$1 discount cards are available). Our club has been invited to have an unmanned display at this event. See Bill for details.

#### **May 20, 2015**

Halifax Council of Garden Clubs annual luncheon. Oceanside Country Club. Business meeting at 10am, lunch at noon \$23/plate. See your officers for details.

#### **May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015**

Rick has announced that he needs more room in the backyard and so, will host a plant sale, plant give-away and some wonderful Spanish/Brazilian food at his home. Everyone is invited to attend from 11am to 2pm. More details at this month’s meeting.



Mexicana albo marginata, (potted last year) ready to go to a new home! This and hundreds of other wonderful bromeliads will be for sale on Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **September 26, 2015**

Bromeliad Extravaganza hosted by the Bromeliad Society of South Florida. “Bromeliads in the Magic City”.  
711 NW 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Miami, Fl. 33126

Double Tree Hilton Miami Airport and  
Convention Center  
Room rate of \$107/night plus parking  
For more information about reservations, go  
to  
<http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/M/MIAMADT-BRO-20150923/index.jhtml>

