

# The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, June 4th, 2017 1:30pm.  
Colony in the Wood – club house  
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

June, 2017

## “AnanaRama” – Let’s Talk Pineapples!

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

**Co-Vice Presidents – Hedy Quirk and Jane Villa-Lobos  
386/847-4513 and 386/446-0341**

**Secretary – Rose Vincel 386/453-3229**

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

**BEFORE YOU READ ANY FARTHER –**  
*Please note that this month’s meeting will be held one week earlier than usual!!*

The club house at Colony in the Wood where we meet has another event booked for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in June, so our options were to have the meeting one week later or one week earlier in the month. One week earlier was our choice. This doesn’t happen often ... but please, don’t show up on June 11<sup>th</sup> – we won’t be there!

### **This month’s meeting – The Genus Ananas**

Most people don’t realize this, but many years ago there was a thriving commercial farming operation in Volusia county growing pineapples. Unfortunately, a virus showed up in the early 1900s that affected the plants so badly that it was no longer feasible to grow these plants commercially and farmers moved on to other, less troublesome crops. We hope that the “red wilt” root problem is a thing of the past because pineapples really do grow very well in this area – particularly when we have relatively mild winters like this last one (thank you global warming!) and they are becoming quite a common site in people’s yards. Few fruits are as tasty as a home-grown pineapple when it has fully ripened and we’re going to show you how to

get your own pineapple started during this month’s meeting.



Variegated Ananas bracteatus – that’s the spiny one!

### **Last month’s meeting –**



Photo by PM Reddy

Dr. Bruce McAlpin introduced many of us for the first time to bromeliads in the Genus Hohenbergia and what a great program that was! I think that we all came away with a better appreciation for this interesting group of plants. We were especially fortunate to

have Bruce with us since this was one of the very last programs the he will be delivering to bromeliad societies throughout the state! Where can you buy a nice *Hohenbergia* for your own collection? Look for them at the upcoming Extravaganza in Tampa in August. I'm sure that there will be some on the sales tables on Saturday during the event.

**The Garden Ramble** also was last month and what a great time we all had! Michael and Susan, Jacquie and Chuck, and of course Hedy and John – thank you, thank you, thank you for inviting us to tour your yards. Everything was beautiful and the weather could not have been nicer! Finally, a special thanks to the Quirks for providing a fabulous lunch for us all! Now, here are a few photos from that event and for those of you who missed it, we'll have a surprise for you at the beginning of this month's meeting – courtesy of club member PM Reddy.



The street name was "Staghorn Court". I wonder why?



Michael and Susan Parry's home was our first stop.



It was a cooler morning than many of us expected. But it didn't take long for the sun to warm us up.



Beautiful variegated *Neoregelia*



I didn't notice this lubber grasshopper until I examined the photo a little closer. He's still black with his yellow "racing stripe", so he's not mature, yet he's already large enough to do some serious damage to these leaves. Keep an eye out for these monsters during this time of the year before they devour the leaves on your prized plants!



Jacquie and Chuck Mamele greet our ramblers for our second stop. Photos by Calandra Thurrott



Hedy Quirk explains how to grow and care for a blue-bottle tree.



The FECBS ramblers at our third stop.



Charlotte Mueller admires a 'sculpture' at the Quirk's home. The driftwood frame made a perfect mount for these Tillandsias.



John Quirk greets us at our third stop.

### **Respect your fellow club-members' privacy –**

Please do not take advantage of email addresses in our roster to promote personal sales or agendas...enough said.

### **Out and About –**

It's really an understatement to say that we have a diverse group of members in FECBS. Some have relatively large pieces of property and are able to grow bromeliads outside in their landscape while others are apartment or condominium dwellers and have very limited space available for growing plants. For those who don't have a large outdoor area available to grow bromeliads, just look at what long-time FECBS member Charlotte Mueller has been able to do at her beachside condominium:



Charlotte has really mastered the art of not only growing a number of the smaller varieties of bromeliads indoors, but also using them in her imaginative and beautiful creations!

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. 3212

#### **Birthdays for June:**

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Ann Alberti	Deb Ball
Pat Debow	Kathy Dunlop
Pam Newman	PM Reddy
Calandra and Jay Thurrott	

#### **Looking ahead:**

#### **August 4,5,6 2017**

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies' Extravaganza – hosted by the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Clarion Hotel

2701 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33612

[www.clarionhoteltampa.com](http://www.clarionhoteltampa.com)

813-971-4710

Make your reservation and ask for the “Bromeliad Extravaganza Rate” of \$75.00 for single or double.

\$85.00 for triple/quad.

Complimentary hot breakfast included.

Rate guaranteed by hotel until July 13, 2017

Room rate includes free parking.

Registration fee is \$100 - includes a barbecue on Friday night and banquet on Saturday night.

You can register through the link on

the Florida Council Website: [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

*You won't want to miss this one!*

Looking ahead at the next few months and our upcoming FECBS programs:

July – Hawaiian luau!!!!!!

August – The Genus Alcantarea



September – Bromeliad Bingo

October – Dr. Terrie Bert returns!