

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, June 10th, 2018 1:30pm.
Colony in the Wood – club house
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

May, 2018

Everything You Wanted to Know About Tillandsias (but were afraid to ask)!

President – Rick Ryals 386/679-8700
Co-Vice Presidents – Jane Vila-Lobos and Hedy Quirk
386/446-0341 and 386/427-2314
Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499
Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041

This month's meeting –

We will be back to our usual meeting place and Tricia Hill will be sharing some of her extensive expertise in growing Tillandsias this month. Tricia is with Russell's Bromeliads and will talk about her recent trip to Guatemala with us and show photos from that trip. You won't want to miss this meeting – and I'm told that Tricia will be bringing plants for sale from Russell's Bromeliads. I hope to see everyone there!



Last month's meeting –

Last month our meeting date coincided with the Volusia County Orchid Society Mothers Day show and sale at the County Fairgrounds in Deland and between setting up a bromeliad display (which, once again was a

prize winner!) and a sales booth (a new feature this year) we decided to just encourage everyone to attend the event and we would get back to our normal meeting schedule in June.



2018 FECBS display at Volusia County Orchid Society show and sale – photo by Cricket Petrovich





Ron Tucholski and Jack Dunlop work on assembling the display



Ron, Jack, Jay, and Stanley by the completed display – photo by Rick Ryals



Jane and Rosie helping at the Mothers Day sales booth



Tillandsia cyaneas for sale at Mothers Day show

Thank you to everyone who helped make this event the success that it was – Special thanks to Ron, Stanley, and Jack for their work on the display and to Rick for organizing the sales booth and all of his volunteers who staffed it on Saturday and Sunday!

Birthdays for June:

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Ann Alberti	Deb Ball
Peg Cowan	Pat DeBow
Kathy Dunlop	Pam Newman
PM Reddy	Audrey Sanford
David Sanford	Calandra Thurrott
Jay Thurrott	

Out and about –

Way back in 2006 when Terrie Bert was a speaker at one of our meetings, I purchased a small *Alcantarea extensa* from her and for the next several years didn't pay it much attention. It didn't seem to be particularly happy in its small pot, so I moved it to somewhat larger accommodations and over the next few years it grew a fair amount larger until 2 years ago when I decided to plant it in the ground and that's when it really began growing bigger. Then, of course, just when I was very happy with its progress and general appearance, along came a hurricane last fall which deposited a large tree limb squarely on top of that poor *Alcantarea* and flattened it!



Alcantarea vs. tree limb in fall of 2017

After removing the limb and “plumping up” the plant to at least a portion of its previous height, it didn’t seem to be too badly damaged from the experience and it continued to grow larger. By the start of the new year, the Alcantarea began showing obvious signs of beginning to bloom and now the bloom spike is easily 8’ tall! A most impressive display!



Large white flowers of Alcantarea extensa

I don’t know if this plant was ready to bloom before its rather severe beating at the hands of mother nature, but maybe if you have a plant that has been reluctant to bloom you should try beating it with a large stick??...just kidding.



Alcantarea extensa in bloom.

What’s in your backyard? Each Spring we have a new crop of young foxes that take up residency in our backyard until they’re old enough to go off on their own. This year was no exception and for a while we were fortunate enough to see them chasing each other in the early morning hours.



This bird bath seems like a good gathering place for young foxes.

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:

June 23rd, 2018

Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies
meeting. Hosted by Sarasota Bromeliad
Society

July 27-29, 2018

Caladium Festival at Stuart Park, Lake Placid
Plant sale, bus tours of growing fields, food,
arts and crafts.

September 14-16, 2018

SW Bromeliad Guild annual show/sale.
Baton Rouge, La.

October 13-14, USF Botanical Gardens Fall
Plant Sale University of South Florida,
Tampa, FL (cas.usf.edu/garden)

November 2-3, 2018 Mead Botanical Garden
GROWvember Fall Plant Sale 1300 S.
Denning Avenue, Winter Park, FL 32789



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