

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, July 8th, 2018 1:30pm.
Colony in the Wood – club house
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

HAPPY JULY 4TH!

July, 2018



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

I know it seems like it's already been Summer for several months now, but technically – it's only been a week or two! We've apparently entered into that weather pattern of hot days and frequent afternoon downpours sooner than usually this year...and that's a good thing. The bromeliads in my yard look so much better now than they did a month or two ago and once again I have to remember that just because my plants are responding positively to today's near perfect growing conditions, that doesn't mean that I can grow every kind of bromeliad offered on sales tables. Soon enough conditions will change and I'll be reminded once more to only try to grow those

bromeliads that do well in my yard. Why can't I remember this? A perfect example was a *Guzmania lindenii* that I was given quite a few years ago. A wonderful and beautiful plant, but not one to grow in Florida! Instead of the cool nights, warm days and high altitudes (at least higher than what we have in Florida) this plant prefers, I could only offer it warm nights, warm days and low altitudes (Hey, one out of three isn't bad!). This *Guzmania* lingered for several years (one leaf dying back and one new leaf sprouting, but never getting any larger) before finally expiring during a particularly hot summer. There is a huge variety of bromeliads available to us out there – choose

ones that you are likely to be able to grow and both you and your plants will be happy!

This month's meeting –

Back by popular demand, Terrie Bert will be presenting her new bromeliad program. Dr. Terrie Bert is a longstanding member of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society (SBS) and the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society and has held multiple offices in the SBS. She also served the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) as a representative and officer for eight years and has authored articles for the FCBS Newsletter. For the Bromeliad Society International, she has been a Florida Director, chaired several international committees, judged several shows, and contributed articles to the BSI Journal. Currently she is Curator of the Wally Berg Award of Excellence and a Master Judge. Terrie has given over 150 presentations on bromeliads to numerous U.S. and international bromeliad societies and other groups and to participants at international bromeliad conferences. She cultivates more than 2,500 different bromeliads in about 35 genera. She's won multiple top awards in local bromeliad shows and BSI world conferences. Terrie has a Ph.D. in marine biology and recently retired from her positions as a research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.



Dr. Terrie Bert during her last visit with us.

The title of her presentation is “Sun, Sand, and Sea: Bromeliads that Rise to the Occasion.” We who live in Florida near the coast always look for plants that can withstand the salt air and bright sun that bathe our homes. Even people who live some distance from the coast can experience these conditions. In this talk, we'll learn about a number of bromeliad species that can withstand high levels of sunlight, salty air, and dry conditions. A surprising number of bromeliad species can tolerate at least two of these three challenging conditions. Want to learn more? Then, plan on attending our July meeting and you can ask all of those bromeliad questions that you have been saving up since Terrie's last visit to FECBS.

Last month's meeting –

As marvelous as today's audio-visual electronics may be, sometimes they just don't want to cooperate! That was the case at our June meeting when we simply could not get Tricia Hill's flash drive and my laptop computer to shake hands. Instead, they chose to come out fighting and we were unable to see what was undoubtedly a wonderful PowerPoint presentation on her recent visit to Guatemala.



Tillandsia streptocarpa – and it's fragrant!

However, being the professional that she is, Tricia still presented a terrific program on the wonderful world of Tillandsias. Thank you Tricia and our hats are off to you for doing so well under such unfortunate conditions!



Tricia Hill with an enormous *Tillandsia duratii* that was offered for sale.



There was a record attendance at June's meeting!



Tricia also brought a terrific selection of Tillandsias for sale from Russell's Bromeliads and if you weren't careful you could have gotten trampled in the stampede of club members anxious to select some of those beautiful Tillandsias to add to their collections!

Also at last month's meeting Bill Hazard brought seeds from his *Encholirium horridum* as well as an unknown *Dyckia* to share with club members interested in trying their hands at growing bromeliads from seed.



Encholirium and *Dyckia* seeds – they're pretty small, so Bill brought tweezers and paper envelopes to share these seeds with the members during the June meeting.

Thank you Bill, and here's a photo of what that *Encholirium* will look like when full grown:



Encholirium horridum

Birthdays for July:

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Linda Collins	Charlotte Mueller
Pat Mulhall	Nancy Rogers
Jane Villa-Lobos	Walter Chase

Out and about –

A few of our club members were fortunate enough to be able to attend the Bromeliad Society International World

Conference in San Diego...and what a great event that was!



Twilight at the conference facility at Paradis Point in San Diego

Florida was very well represented with at least 27 Floridians pre-registered for the conference. Without getting too carried away, let me just say that the venue was beautiful, the speakers excellent, the bus tours terrific, and the plants...just fabulous! Congratulations to the host – the San Diego Bromeliad Society and to BSI for a great conference!



Over the top? Why would you say that?...just because this show entry and winner of the Morris Henry Hobbs award was centered around a real Irish harp – and played music whenever viewers passed by!



Vriesea 'Abigail Jean' – one of David Fell's outstanding hybrids on the sale table during the World Conference.

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:

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, 2018

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