

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, August 12, 2018 1:30pm.
Colony in the Wood – club house
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange 32129

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME BINGO?

August, 2018

President – Rick Ryals 386/679-8700

**Co-Vice Presidents – Jane Villa-Lobos and Hedy Quirk
386/446-0341 and 386/427-2314**

Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499

Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041

We've really settled into a Summertime pattern of hot, hot, hot, followed by rain, more rain and still more rain. This may not make for the most comfortable conditions to work outside, but the plants are certainly loving it! Those small offsets on bromeliads that I just noticed only a month ago seem to be getting bigger every day and are close to being large enough to separate from their mother plants. And that's a good thing because this month and next month are prime times to be separating and potting pups. Get your potting done now or you might do best to wait until next Spring. I've noticed in the past that Neoregelia pups that I've separated in October just don't seem to do as well as those that I've either separated earlier in the Fall or waited until the return of warm weather in the new year. Other Genera don't seem to show this same effect as dramatically as the Neos. So – yes it's hot out there, but there's work to be done, so get out there in the early part of the day and then retire to the comfort of your air-conditioning once the mercury climbs above 90F and dark clouds on the horizon suggest that the next rainstorm is about to roll through.

This month's meeting –
Back by popular demand – it's Bromeliad Bingo!



That's right, for those of you who missed it last year and haven't had an opportunity to participate, here's how it works. The club will obtain a group of high quality bromeliads that you will have an opportunity to inspect and learn about and the prize for each round of Bingo will be one of those beautiful plants. Simple enough and lots of

fun! Everyone present at the meeting will receive a sheet of Bingo cards and more cards will be available for purchase if you are one of those “hard-core” Bingo players who like to play several cards at the same time.

Last month’s meeting –

Dr. Terrie Bert provided the answers to questions that come up so frequently: What bromeliads are sun tolerant (for those in our group who have little shade in their yards)? What ones are drought tolerant (for those in our group who may not water as frequently as they should)? And, what varieties tolerate salt (for those who live on the beach-side and contend with salt spray)?



Dr. Bert preparing to start her program.

As was explained during Dr. Terrie’s presentation, some bromeliad varieties exhibit tolerance in two of these three areas, but don’t expect to find bromeliads that meet all three of these challenges. Our speaker presented us with a very interesting presentation and also offered a terrific variety of her plants for sale at very reasonable prices!



Also at last month’s meeting – a HUUUUUGE plant raffle!

Bill Hazard brought more of his recently collected *Encholirium* seeds to share with club members at last month’s meeting for anyone wishing to try their hand at growing bromeliads from seed. We received this photo from club member Frankie Breslin showing a group of tiny seedlings that she sprouted from that first batch of seeds from Bill:



Encholirium horridum seedlings – photo by F. Breslin

It certainly looks like her batch of *Encholirium horridum* seedlings are off to an excellent start! Alas, the seeds that I started germinated but suddenly were attacked by a fungus of some sort. A quick dose of fungicide stopped the organism in its tracks, but not before it wiped out all but 2 of the tiny seedlings. Bill gave me a fresh batch of seeds at July’s meeting and they seem to be doing just fine – good germination and they are putting up their first leaves. Hopefully I can avoid having to treat them for fungus. That seems to stress the fragile tiny seedlings.

At last month’s meeting president Rick Ryals thanked Jane Upham and Susan Rowley for all of their hard work in gathering Joan Campbell’s bromeliads together for a yard sale, handling the weekend sale and then donation of the proceeds to FECBS. Thank you Jane and Susan and thank you Joan -we’re all sorry to see you go.



President Ryals thanking Jane and Susan (not shown) for their donations.



Joan Campbell showing one of her favorite Aechmeas.

We'll miss Joan and hope that she will stop in to visit the next time she passes through our area.

Birthdays for August:

Happy Birthday to the following FECBS members:

Alan Bennett	Margaret Gillen
Sharon Gum	Argil Matthews
Anna McPherson	Laurie Mulhall
Lloyd Murphy	Susan Parry
Debbie Williams	

In Memorium:

On a sad note, we received word that long-time FECBS member Harriet Herrin passed away.



Most of you probably remember her as the club member who brought in plastic trays for anyone who felt that they could use them. Harriet was never one to sit still to have her picture taken, but I managed to get this one without her being aware of it at a Christmas party a few years ago. She will be missed.

Out and about –

Our co-vice president Jane Villalobos sends the following report on her recent visit to Selby Gardens:

Bromeliads Showcased at Warhol Exhibit in Sarasota

There was a one-of-a-kind exhibit at the Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota that I attended. The living displays of "*Warhol: Flowers in the Factory*" assembled by Selby staff was a collection plants, mostly bromeliads and epiphytes, that emphasized the repetition, modular design and juxtaposition of Andy Warhol's work. In the conservatory there was a "Warwall" spanning 72 feet which contained 300 planted bromeliads. It was spectacular!!! On the grounds there were collections of bromeliads in white frames backed by colored squares as well as large-scaled hibiscus flowers indicative of Warhol's paintings.



Display area of Selby Gardens – photo by Jane Villa-Lobos

In the Museum of Botany and Arts iconic original silk screens of hibiscus produced in the mid-1060s were on display as well as poinsettia prints created in 1983. It was truly worth the drive to see this fantastic exhibit.



If you have never been to Marie Selby located on Sarasota Bay it is a must. It is the only botanical garden in the world dedicated to the display and study of epiphytes, especially orchids and bromeliads, and their canopy ecosystems, with a focus on botany, horticulture and environmental education.

And not too far away is Tropiflora so it is a great get-away weekend venture.

- **Jane Villa-Lobos**

As it turned out, Calandra and I were in Sarasota for the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies meeting at the end of June and spent a morning at Selby Gardens shortly after Jane's visit.



Bed of *Cryptanthus* 'Black Mystic' in the display area
It's a great way to spend a few hours – whether it be wandering through the display area or walking through the Bayfront gardens. There something for everyone in Selby!



Hohenbergia correia-araujoi and *Alcantarea odorata*



Neoregelia cruenta – in full sun



Free-standing Warhol display using Tillandsias attached to monofilament line – photo by Jane Villa-Lobos



Close up of that display showing Tillandsia xerographica surrounded by other Tillandsias that seem to be suspended in mid-air.



Display of white rockers outside of Museum of Botany and Arts looking very inviting.



Sherrie Thompson sent us these pictures of three different varieties of colorful Guzmanias in bloom from her garden in Palm Coast:



Guzmania hybrids in bloom





...and how about this one showing a dragonfly resting on the tip of a beautiful yellow inflorescence. Great photos – thank you Sherrie!

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 30- September 23rd, 2018

Leu Gardens – Enchanted Fairy Doors throughout the gardens

August 18, 19, 2018

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Annual Fall Plant Sale 9am-4pm

Free admission, free parking (free air conditioning!). Sanford Garden Club
200 Fairmont Drive – 1 Block south of Lake Mary Blvd.

September 14-16, 2018

SW Bromeliad Guild annual show/sale. 9940 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, La.70816
Call 225/753-8414 for more info.

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

March 23, 24, 2019

Kanapaha Gardens Spring Garden Festival
Gainesville, FL

