

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

August, 2021

Colony in the Wood
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange
Time: 1:30 pm.

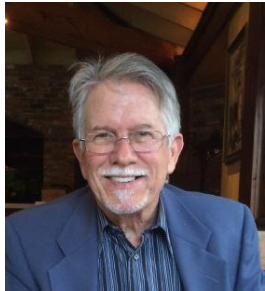
Co-Presidents – Jack Dunlop and Chuck Mamale
386/317-0054 386/402-4830

Vice President – Bill Hazard 386/882-3850

Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499

Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041

August meeting



The speaker for the August 8th meeting will be Steve Byram. Steve is a retired physical education teacher who is a Pasco County Master Gardener. He has been a member of the Bromeliad Guild of

Tampa Bay for 14 years and has served as secretary, president, and is currently vice president. Steve has given many talks at garden clubs, nurseries, public libraries, public gardens, and bromeliad societies across the state of Florida.

Steve's talk, "Bromeliads 101", will be an overview of bromeliad history, classifications, growing tips based on experiences in his own garden, and where to purchase plants.

There will also be show & tell, door prizes and a bromeliad plant raffle.

Drinks will be provided, but members who have birthdays this month are asked to bring food. Others may also. Thank you.

---Jack Dunlop

No sharpening this month

Unfortunately Carey Strickland has had to cancel due to health issues. We hope to reschedule him for a later date.

Monthly Feature

Nidularium: This genus is one of the smaller in the Bromeliaceae with approx. 50 species. Its name comes from the Latin word "*nitus*" meaning "nest", referring to the nest-like arrangement of the short leaves that appear in the center of the plant just before it blooms. They all originate from the rainforests of eastern Brazil and are mostly epiphytes. They are one of the easiest bromeliads to grow as they prefer strong filtered light or shade and are quite cold tolerant. However, most species will grow for 3-5 years before flowering. Nidulariums are medium-sized plants with inflorescences forming low in the center of the rosettes which can last several months. At flowering time the inner leaves turn brilliant red, rose or cerise, depending on the species.

Easy species to grow plants include: *N. fulgens*, *innocentii*, *longiflorum*, *rutilans*, and 'Leprosa'.



Nidularium longiflorum (J. Villa-Lobos)



Nidularium rutilans (J. Villa-Lobos)

Orthophytum:

This is a small genus with around 50 species. They are mostly found in nature growing in a small area of Brazil in the cracks of rocky ledges in full sun. Their leaves have prominent spines and are flexible. Flowers are usually white. The stem that forms during flowering develops a clustered inflorescence and a flattened rosette of leaves which are the pups and can be removed when they are a good size. Sometimes the stem falls over and the pups root themselves in the soil. Plants tend to be very cold resistant but require adequate moisture to thrive. Give them plenty of water during the summer and reduce it in the winter months.



Orthophytum "Warren Loose" (Jane Villa-Lobos)
Furry leaves. Cultivar of *O. gurkenii*



Orthophytum 'Fire Opal' (C. Thurrott)
Brick red colored leaves like the gemstone.



O. 'Starlight' (Jane Villa-Lobos)

Next month:

Pitcairnia, *Portea* and *Puya* will be featured next month. **Please send me your photos by the end of the month. Thanks!!**

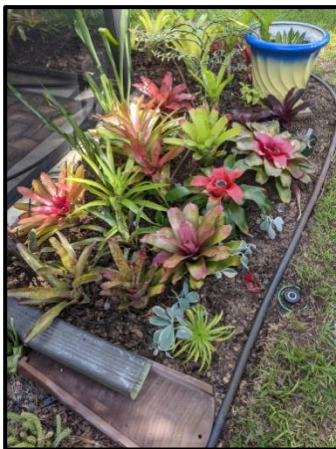
We love to see pictures of bromeliads in our member's gardens.



Billbergia 'Hallelujah' (C.Thurrott)



Sandra Ellis' garden



Janet Correia's collection

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 Jane at saravillalobos387@gmail.com or mail to Jane Villa-Lobos, 29 Clearview Ct. North, Palm Coast, FL 32137.

Videos to Watch:

The Internet is a wealth of information and in this section each month I will include some videos I find interesting. Send me yours!

Seabreeze Nurseries - *Orthophytum* explained - care, lighting, growth habit.

Need identification of your plants?

There are many bromeliad FaceBook pages with knowledgeable people who might be able to identify your bromeliads. Just post a picture detailing the leaves and flower stalk if possible. Sites include: Central Florida Bromeliads, Florida Bromeliads, Bromeliad Society of Central Florida and Bromeliad VIP Collectors.

Birthdays for August:

Greetings to these members:

Allen Bennett	Margaret Gillen
Iris Grait	Sharon Gunn
Maggie Marshall	Argil Matthews
Anna McPherson	Myrna Moore
Lloyd Murphy	Judy Rodriguez
Debbie Williams	

Looking ahead:

August 14-15

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Fall Sale

Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Dr.,
Sanford. 9AM - 4 PM.

facebook.com/events/811110769768109

October 9-10.

USF Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Sale

University of South Florida, Tampa.
(Tentative)

October 21-24

Bromeliad Society of South Florida Plant Sale

Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden
10901 Old Cutler Rd.
Coral Gables, FL
(details to follow)

November 13-14

Mount Dora Plant & Garden Fair

Donnelly Park, Mount Dora
Sat. 9AM -5PM; Sun. 9AM - 4PM

2022

June 8-12, 2022

24th World Bromeliad Conference

Note: The 2021 conference has been re-scheduled to 2022!!!

Hyatt Regency Sarasota
Sarasota, FL Watch future newsletters for
more details! www.bsi.org

