

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

This month's meeting is December 12th

December, 2021

Colony in the Wood

4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange

1:30 p.m.

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

Holiday Party!

December 12th will be our Holiday Party marking another year of informative meetings in spite of the virus. A huge thank you to life member Francisco Cardoso for preparing the turkey and ham! Don't forget to bring the food you signed up for, and if you did not sign up, feel free to bring a dish to share. Along with the bromeliad raffle, there will be a centerpiece competition, so be creative and bring a holiday display with bromeliads! There are prizes!!! There will also be door prizes and a 50/50 drawing.

---Jack Dunlop

Renew your membership!

Eve will continue to accept renewal of your dues for 2022. Individual: \$15, Family: \$20. Cash or make checks payable to FECBS. Bring to the meeting or mail to: Eve Krauth, 148 Grebe Ct., Daytona Beach, 32119.

Officers and programs for next year



Since there were no volunteers last month for President or Vice President, Jack, Chuck and Bill have graciously agreed to guide the club for another year. Thank you Ruth and Eve for continuing your responsibilities. If you have any suggestions of speakers or types of programs for 2022, please send them to Bill Hazard at bhaz876@gmail.com.

Colder temperatures are on the way...

It is time to think about preparing your bromeliad collections for colder temperatures. The first thing to do is find out which of your plants can survive under various temperatures. The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies www.fcbs.org contains several articles that may help: Cold Sensitivity of Bromeliads compiled by Dr. Dale W. Jenkins (1998) and Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads by Tom Wolfe & Eileen Kahl (2007). Get that frost cloth ready!!!

Monthly Feature:

Vriesea: Native to Central and South America, this genus is comprised of mostly tank-type plants. Many are small to medium varieties, but some are quite large. Since most are true epiphytes they have little in the way of a root system. Their smooth leaves are typically long, broad and flat and do not have spines or points.

Vriesea inflorescences are typically very long-lasting and may be highly decorative in color such as *Vriesea splendens*. Flowers range from yellow, red, orange, pink, purple and even speckled. They are tolerant of different light conditions, but will only bloom if they have bright filtered sunlight. Usually species with softer green leaves need less light than those with stiff or patterned foliage which need stronger light. Even though they look delicate, many tend to be very cold hardy.

If you grow them in pots, be sure to use a fast-draining soil to prevent rotting. Fertilizer with a granular fertilizer March to October. Pups appear in the center of Vrieseas and feed off the mother plant until they have developed roots to survive on their own.



Vriesea 'Margarita' (Jane Villa-Lobos)



Vriesea 'Favoriet'
(Photo: Herb Plever)
This is a cross with
V. splendens



Note: *Vriesea ospiniae*
var. *gruberi* is now
Goudea ospiniae var.
gruberi

(Photo: Dorothy Berg)

Wallisia: In case you have *Tillandsia cyanea*, it has been reclassified as *Wallisia cyanea*.



(Jane Villa-Lobos)

Wittrockia: Named after Swedish botanist, Veit Brecher Wittrock, this genus is native to Central and South America. The long, glossy leaves are armed with sharp spines and form a rosette. Their inflorescence is shaped like a tulip and blooms deep in the vase.

Wittrockia cyathiformis is endemic to the Atlantic coastal rainforests of southeastern Brazil.



(Photo: Dorothy Berg)

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!

Here are a few:

JoyUS Garden: Vriesea plant care tips: the bromeliad with the flaming sword flower.

Seabreeze Nurseries - Vrieseas explained: care and growing of.

Birthdays for December:

Greetings to these members:

Christophe Cardot	Jack Dunlop
Jamie Gill	Sudi Hipsley
Tootie Richey	Marsha Tucholski
Sandi Wirth	



Photos from past Holiday Parties





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

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.

Looking ahead:

Dec. 1-31 Holiday Blooms at Leu Gardens
1920 N. Forest Ave.
Orlando, FL
9 am - 5 pm.
Adults: \$10. No entry fee after 4 pm. First ever holiday display. www.leugardens.org

2022

**March 26-27
Bromeliad Society of South Florida
Plant Sale**

Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden
10901 Old Cutler Rd.
Coral Gables, FL
9:30 am - 4:30 pm

**April 23-24
Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant
Society Annual Spring Plant Sale**

Sanford Garden Club
200 Fairmont Dr.
Sanford, FL
9 am - 4 pm

**June 8-12, 2022
24th World Bromeliad Conference**

Hyatt Regency Sarasota
Sarasota, FL

www.bsi.org

Don't miss the great line-up of speakers from Colombia, Brazil, Mexico, New Zealand, The Netherlands, California, Ohio, Florida.

Bus trips to Michael's Bromeliads and Tropiflora. Plant Sale and Rare Plant Auction. Register on-line now!

