

# Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa Newsletter



[www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)

January 2023

## From the President:



Hi club members,

It was an enjoyable holiday gathering for us with good friends, great food, and nice gift plants. Thanks to those who donated a tropical plant for our auction that changed into a raffle.

We need your help. American Legion will no longer host our monthly meetings. We will not be holding a meeting in January. Please help us search for a new meeting location. Contact any of the board members with information.

So far, we have contacted:

- 1) The Garden Club on Bayshore and we would be required to join Federation of Garden Circles and pay \$33 per member annually.
- 2) Woodmont Clubhouse in Temple Terrace charges \$145 monthly.
- 3) Christ the King has no openings.
- 4) Hillsborough county co-op extension office has no openings.
- 5) Local county community centers charge \$43 - \$80 per hour depending on location. We contacted Mango, University, Temple Terrace, and Northdale.
- 6) Eureka Springs county park has an open air facility with picnic tables.
- 7) Bread of Refuge 521 Wilbur St near Nativity church in Brandon has space for \$100.
- 8) County libraries are only open until 8:00 p.m.

Julie





Beginner's  
Corner

## Mounting Made Simple By Tom Wolfe

The first step in mounting is to select a plant to mount that is over one-third to one-half grown. Preferably select a bromeliad that hasn't started to produce roots. Some bromeliads that love to be mounted are: Aechmea Bert, Quesnelia marmorata, Neoregelia pauciflora, and most Tillandsias; however, some Tillandsias never produce roots.



Second Step: Select a piece of driftwood that corresponds with the size and shape of the plant when mature. If available, Florida red cedar lasts longer than any other wood to be found in Florida and would be the number one choice for long lasting wood.

Other woods used for mounting are cypress, cork bark, bottle brush, ligustrum, and oak.

*Select appropriate  
wood for mounting.*

Step 3: Drill a hole in the end of the wood where you want the hanger to go using a "1/4" drill bit.



Step 4: Acquire a piece of strong wire, the type used to string through the top of chain link fences is best, and can support up to 100

pounds. Then bend a hook at one end of the wire and a 45° angle at the other end. Insert the wire through the hole and, using a channel lock pliers, bend the wire so it will fit tight against the wood.



Step 5: Groom the plant and place it on the driftwood. If the plant is small, use number E6000 glue, (must be waterproof) then apply it to the base of the plant. Also, a zip tie can be used to secure the plant at the caudex.



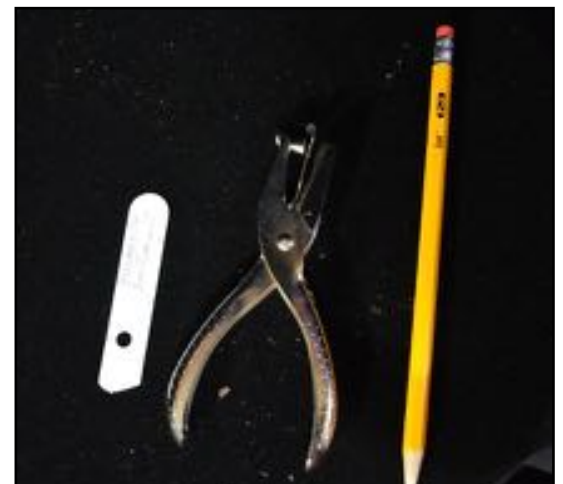
Additionally a zip tie can be strung through the foliage of plant to securely support it until the roots have attached and then can be removed.

Step 6: Always make a plant label using a #2 pencil. Punch a hole in the end of the label and insert about 4" length of bell wire through the hole and slip it over the hanger wire. This will keep birds or squirrels from stealing your tags.

Always use wire that is coated. Copper wire will kill your plants.



Hang the plant where it can receive the proper amount of light according to the species.



## **DUES ARE DUE!**

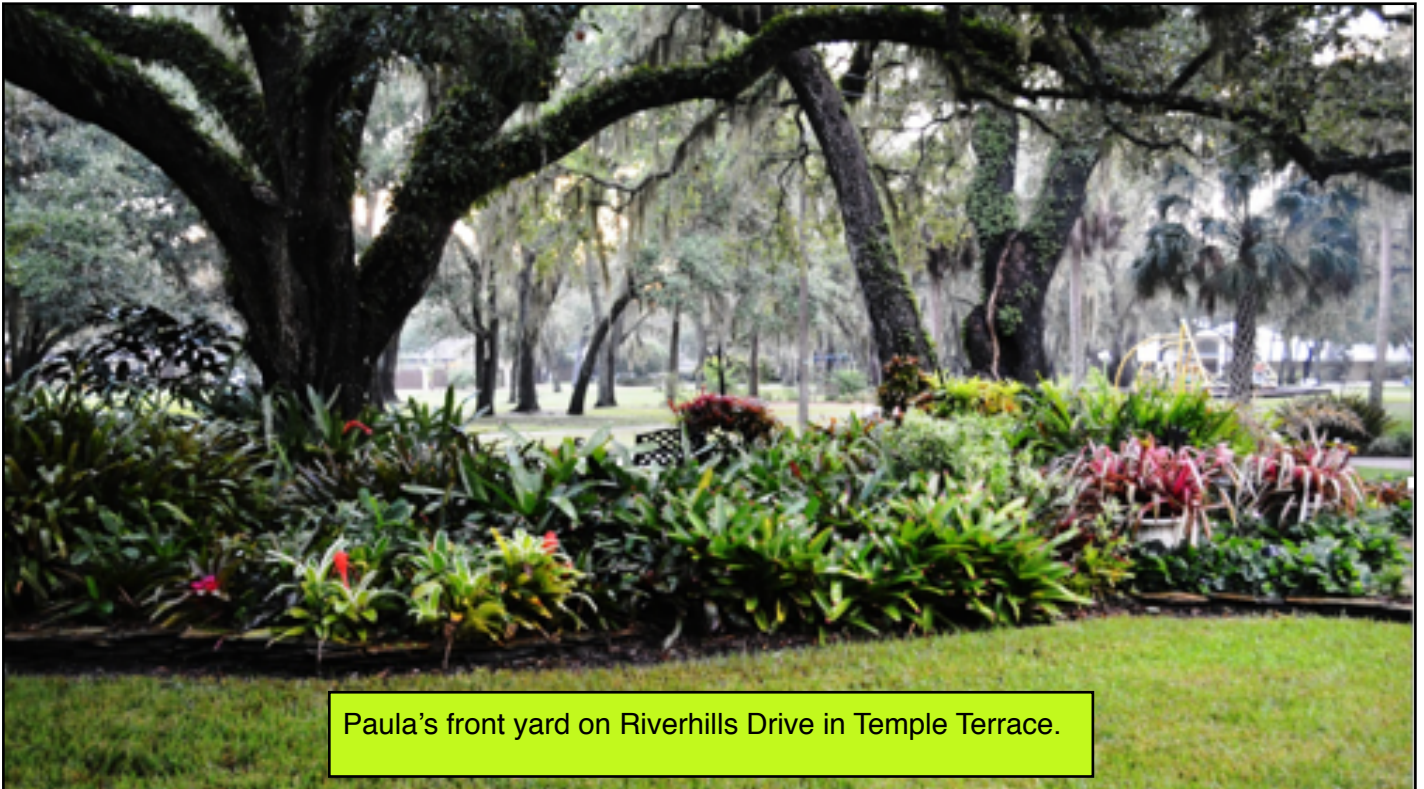
It's time to renew your BTPST membership. Your membership expired on December 31. Please fill out the application/renewal form in this newsletter and bring it to the next meeting or mail it to Rick Hunter, 2105 Colewood Lane, Dover, FL 33527. Only \$25.00 for single membership or \$30.00 for family. What a bargain!

# Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies Meeting

## Saturday, February 25, 2023

The FCBS, our state organization, holds three meetings per year around the state hosted by the Florida bromeliad clubs. On Saturday, February 25, 2023, it will be our club's turn to host the meeting. It consists of about 25 people from around the state and our club provides the meeting place and lunch for our guests.

Paula Benway has graciously agreed to have the meeting at her beautiful home and garden located at 1225 N. Riverhills Drive, Temple Terrace, Florida 33617.



Paula's front yard on Riverhills Drive in Temple Terrace.

Tom Wolfe would like to have two workdays at Paula's house between now and the meeting. Since we are not having our regular monthly meeting in January, due to no available facility, this will be a perfect time for us to visit and fellowship in a beautiful surrounding while working together.



Channel 13 filming for the 2017 Extravaganza with Eileen Hart, Paula Benway and Tom Wolfe

### MARK YOU CALENDAR

**Work day #1: 10:00 AM to Noon**  
**Saturday, January 21, 2023**

**Work day #2: 10:00 AM to Noon**  
**Saturday, February 11, 2023**



Eileen Hart taking a break while waiting on the filming crew



Charlie Belcher of Tampa's Channel 13, "Charlie's World" with cameraman interviewing Tom Wolfe live on their morning show for the 2017 Extravaganza sponsored by the club.

Paula has opened her garden in the past on many occasions for the club's events but if you are new and haven't seen it, you will be in for a treat!

We hope that we will have a great turn out of workers. Please come and help us prepare and work in the garden.

Please text your response to 813-376-5251 or email to [bromstudio@hotmail.com](mailto:bromstudio@hotmail.com) so that we will know to expect you!

**Will we have donuts and Coffee?  
Yes, for sure!  
And water and drinks!**

**I hope to see you there!  
Carol Wolfe**



Paula's backyard on the Hillsborough River

## BTPST MEETING NOVEMBER 21, 2022 SNAPSHOTS



Speaker  
Dr. Terrie Bert



Speaker  
Dr. Terrie Bert



Plant Sales



Plant Sales



Plant Sales



Refreshment Time

## BTPST Christmas Party, December 12, 2022



Cheryl Victor with Birthday Plant  
Donated by Bill Carr



Table Decorated by  
Jill Zakaroff



Table Decorated by Kenneth Stokes  
Grand Prize Winner!



Table Decorated by  
Verna Dickey



Table Decorated by  
Tom Wolfe



Table Decorated by  
Cheryl Victor

**Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa  
Minutes of Meeting November 21, 2022**

**Business Meeting Called to Order** by Secretary, Steve Byram

**Welcoming** of New Member - Taira Hoopes

**Program:** Presented by Dr. Terrie Bert - "Growing Beautiful Bromeliads in Central Florida" followed by an opportunity to purchase Terrie's plants.

**Refreshments**

**Election of Officers and Directors for 2023**

Slate of members nominated to serve were elected unanimously.

**Officers:**

President - Julie Lessard  
Vice President - Carol Wolfe  
Secretary - Steve Byram  
Treasurer - Rick Hunter  
Newsletter Editor - Marilyn Byram

**Directors:**

Martha Kirby  
Shellie Sweet  
Tom Wolfe  
Jill Zakaroff

**Announcement:** Christmas Party will be on the 2nd Monday of December rather than our usual 3rd Monday (December 12). It will start at 6:30 p.m. Sign-up sheet for food and table decorating were passed.

**Birthday Plant:** Won by Anthony Pino

**Meeting adjourned**

**Raffle**

Respectfully submitted, Steve Byram



**Workday #1 at Paula Benway's House** - Saturday, January 21, 10:00 a.m. to noon. Paula is hosting the Florida Council Meeting in February and we are helping her prepare.

**Workday #2 at Paula Benway's House** - Saturday, February 11, 10:00 a.m. to noon.

**Florida State Fair** - February 9 - 20. We need help setting up our booth on Monday, February 6 at 6:00 p.m. and tearing down on the morning of February 21.

**USF Plant Festival** - April 15-16, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

# BROMELIAD & TROPICAL PLANT SOCIETY OF TAMPA

## Membership Application/Renewal

Memberships: January 1 to December 31 each Year

### Please Print

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Second Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Month \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Application \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 Single Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$30.00 Family Membership

Make checks payable to BTPST

Submit with application to:

Rick Hunter

2105 Colewood Lane

Dover, FL 33527

FOR FIRST-TIME MEMBERS: How did you hear about BGTB?

\_\_\_ Friend \_\_\_ Newspaper \_\_\_ Facebook \_\_\_ BGTB Website \_\_\_ Florida State Fair

\_\_\_ Plant Festival or Show Other (Please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa

Established 1963 as Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay

Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.

Plant sales at 6:30 p.m. Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments

BTPST is affiliated with Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.





**January Birthdays:** Happy Birthday to Frank Bursa and Julie Lessard



## Sunshine Greetings

Please notify Verna Dickey of any illness, surgery, birth of a child, death in the family, or other concerns you or another member may have. Call 813-244-3637 or email [vernadickey@aol.com](mailto:vernadickey@aol.com)

## Officers for 2023

**President:** Julie Lessard 813-600-9771 [taxxmaam@gmail.com](mailto:taxxmaam@gmail.com)

**Vice President:** Carol Wolfe 813-376-5251 [bromstudio@hotmail.com](mailto:bromstudio@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** Steve Byram 813-361-4035 [byramsteve@gmail.com](mailto:byramsteve@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Rick Hunter 813-657-2305 [rg.hunter@verizon.net](mailto:rg.hunter@verizon.net)

**Newsletter Editor:** Marilyn Byram 813-563-1532 [bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:bgtbnewsletter@gmail.com)

### Directors:

Martha Kirby 813-810-7617 [mjkirby21@gmail.com](mailto:mjkirby21@gmail.com)

Shellie Sweet 813-368-7198 [ninjasmomshellie@gmail.com](mailto:ninjasmomshellie@gmail.com)

Tom Wolfe 813-391-1542 [bromscape@outlook.com](mailto:bromscape@outlook.com)

Jill Zakaroff 813-689-1899 [joatrades.zakaroff@gmail.com](mailto:joatrades.zakaroff@gmail.com)



## Bromeliads Online

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay [www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org](http://www.bromeliadguildoftampabay.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/366210778024864>

Bromeliad Society International— [www.bsi.org](http://www.bsi.org)



Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies— [www.fcbs.org](http://www.fcbs.org)

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens— [www.selby.org](http://www.selby.org)

Bromeliads Online - <http://www.bromeliads.co.nz/index.html>



The Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society of Tampa was established in 1963 as the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay. In July, 2022, it expanded its focus to include other tropical plants. BTPST is affiliated with the following: Bromeliad Society International, The Cryptanthus Society, Inc., Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc., and Marie Selby Botanical Gardens, Sarasota, FL.

When: Meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of every month.  
Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Informative programs, workshops, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes, raffle & refreshments  
Visitors welcome!

**NEWSLETTER OF THE  
BROMELIAD &  
TROPICAL PLANT  
SOCIETY OF TAMPA  
21535 Northwood Dr.  
Lutz, Florida 33549**