



FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

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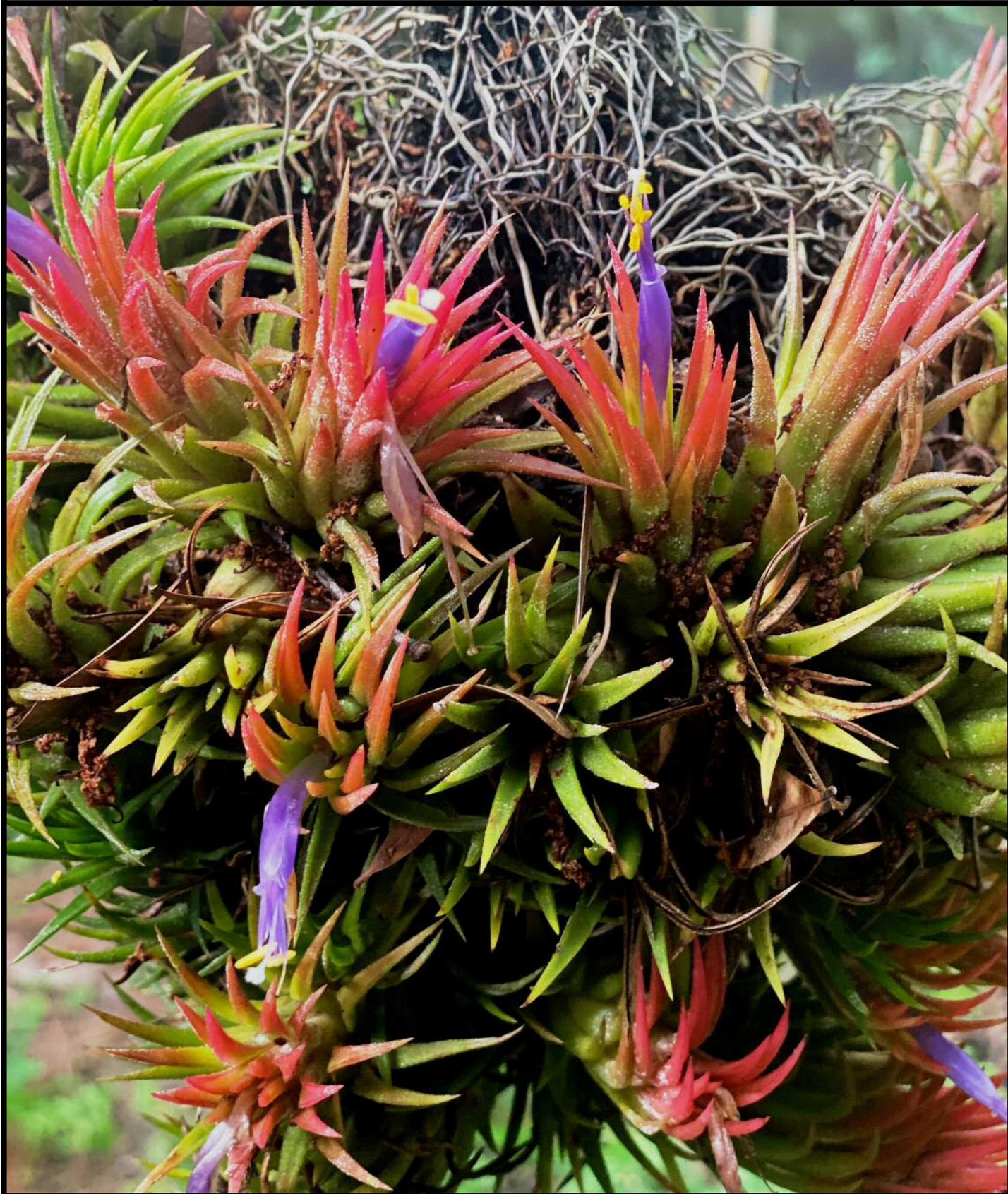




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PUBLICATION: This newsletter is published four times a year, February, May, August, and November, and is a publication of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies. Please submit your bromeliad related activities, articles, photographs, society shows, news and events of your society.

DEADLINES FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS ARE:

January 15 for February issue

April 15th for May issue

July 15 for August issue

October 15th for November issue

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FRONT COVER: Tillandsia ionatha photo by Carol Wolfe



2022 FCBS OFFICERS & MEMBERS



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Florida West Coast
Bromeliad Society

Gregory Kolejeski
Secretary
Seminole Bromeliad &
Tropical Plant Society



Sandy Burnett
2022 Vice Chairman
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Sudi Hipsley
2021 Treasurer
Seminole Bromeliad &
Tropical Plant Society



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Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
Betsy McCrory &
Mike Saunders

Bromeliad Society of Palm Beaches
Tom Ramiccio &
Nick Bethmann

Bromeliad Society of South Florida
Michael Michalski & Patty Gonzalez

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
Vicky Chirnside

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society
Calandra Thurrott & Jack Dunlop

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society
Susan Sousa & Richard Poole

Gainesville Bromeliad Society
Sandy Burnett & Stephen Provost

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

**Seminole Bromeliad &
Tropical Plant Society**
Sudi Hipsley & Greg Kolojeski

COMMITTEES MEMBERS:

The following Committee Members and guests have a standing invitation to FCBS Meetings as Non-Voting Members unless serving in the dual role of Member Society Representative.

Al Muzzel Weevil Fund:
Tom Wolfe, Chairman
Richard Poole
Nick Bethmann

FCBS Editorial Panel:
Carol Wolfe, Editor
Tom Wolfe, Assistant Editor
Calandra Thurrott, Copy Editor

FCBS Roster Maintenance:
Susan Sousa

FCBS Webmaster:
Michael Andreas, Webmaster@FCBS.org

BSI Officers from Florida:
Gregory Kolojeski, Vice President
Barbara Partagas, Secretary

BSI Directors from Florida:
Rick Ryals
Alex Bello,
Alan Herndon &
Richard Poole



I Love Bromeliads...by Carol Wolfe, Editor

Greetings FCBS members,

We welcome our new FCBS Officers for 2022 and here's anticipating a happy "Bromeliad Year" ahead for the FCBS and the Florida Societies.

Let's put last year behind us and move on with our favorite plant family, Bromeliads! If you aren't a member of a local club, join one! And invite a neighbor, friend or relative to go to the meetings with you. You will find a friendly group of people at any of the meetings around the State of Florida so don't be hesitate to go. Let them know that you are new and they will go out of their way to make you feel welcome. We recently attended the Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society meeting in Daytona and they had a full house of members present. They had so much enthusiasm that it was quite contagious. We had so much fun and so did the members! On the way out, some members commented that they couldn't wait until next month's meeting. That is a true "Bromeliad Lover!"

You can still register for the World Bromeliad Conference to be held in Sarasota, Florida on June 8 to 11, 2022. If you haven't registered for the conference, you can still do so at <https://www.bsi.org/>. Cost is \$335 if paid by May 26, 2022 and \$395 thereafter. The website has all the information posted.

Our spring days have been beautiful so far. While it is snowing in adjoining states, blizzards and freezing temps to the north, negative temps in Canada, our azaleas, camellias, and bromeliads are blooming. The rains nourish all the plants and the buds have responded with beautiful multi-bouquets of flowers. Some days are cool, great sweater weather, but in a few days temperatures are once again in the 80's. Ah...this is why we live in Florida! Land of the FREE!

Thanks to all the FCBS Representatives who sent a list of their programs over the last two years. Even with all the distractions, closing of venues and meeting places, we managed to have a lot of good programs. This list should be helpful to your program chairs in finding speakers for your club.

On the next page, a copy of the email from Dr. Howard Frank about the new publication, "Mosquitoes and Bromeliads". This is welcomed information and please share it with your members! We were all horrified when the Mayor of Miami had bromeliads ripped up from streets and public places in Miami and burned; although Dr. Frank's research and science did not back up their claim that mosquitoes in bromeliads were causing a disease problem. As always, our thanks to Dr. Frank for standing for the truth and sharing this information with us!

As always my thanks to Calandra Thurrott for her articles and pictures and her faithful assistance in proofing the newsletter. She also obtained the article and permission for us to use the article regarding the Edison and Ford Winter Estate, "New Bromeliad Garden at the Estate."

My thanks to Greg Kolejeski for providing information on the WBC and pictures of the speakers, along with his article, "An Easy Makeshift Greenhouse". Our thanks to Larry Giroux for great pictures from the Caloosahatchee show and sale. Last but not least to Tom Wolfe for his taking us down memory lane in the story on camping in the Everglades, pre-python days (before then we only had cottonmouth water moccasins and rattlesnakes) and before the evil weevil destroyed so many of our beloved bromeliads in Florida. Unfortunately, these exciting times no longer exist but we can enjoy the stories of "Old Florida" and the way it use to be!

I hope you, as a reader enjoys the stories and information provided and you will be motivated to share some of your experiences with our FCBS members! Your shared experiences, through this media, makes it a fun publication for all to read! We need your input and we want to hear your experiences too!

Wishing you a Happy SPRING!

Carol

**New publication about mosquitoes and bromeliads**

jhfrank@ufl.edu

Hi Carol:

It was late 2016 when Dennis Cathcart asked me to attend a meeting at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden (the place where the mayor demanded uprooting and burning of the bromeliads) and defend the Bullis family against unwarranted attacks against mosquito control interests.

There was another meeting early the next year of the Miami-Dade County Commission. I spoke for a mere three minutes and told the audience that mosquitoes in bromeliads are rarely a disease problem. They were of quite the opposite opinion based mainly on bad information from their own Mosquito Control District. Some of them were of the opinion that I was lying, because there had been cases of Zika nearby.

My talk was based on research I had done while working at Florida Medical Entomology Lab in Vero Beach in 1978-1979. The extension person at FMEL contradicted me. So did the mosquito control director in St. Augustine, so did Miami-Dade Mosquito Control. I was not successful in getting FMEL to support my viewpoint, so Dennis Cathcart circulated a PDF flyer that he produced.

After five YEARS!!! FMEL has finally published support (although it is mainly based on what Phil Lounibos did much later). The new EDIS article is attached here. Maybe I am bad news? It is the truth that I try to present.

New Mosquito BulletinBest Wishes
Howard<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/IN1343>

[ENY2073/IN1343: Mosquitoes and Bromeliads](#) University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences Extension outreach is a partnership between state, federal, and county governments to provide scientific knowledge and expertise to the public. The University of Florida (UF), together with Florida A&M University (FAMU), administers the Florida Cooperative Extension Service. edis.ifas.ufl.edu

THE PUBLISHED REPORT COVERS THE FOLLOWING:***SUMMARY INTRODUCTION******CAN BROMELIADS PRODUCE MOSQUITOES?******DO ALL BROMELIADS PRODUCE MOSQUITOES THAT CAN TRANSMIT VIRUSES TO HUMANS?******CONTROVERSIES OVER MOSQUITOES AND BROMELIADS DURING MOSQUITO-BORNE VIRUS OUTBREAKS******RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL IN BROMELIADS*****THE AUTHORS:**

Ana L. Romero-Weaver, lab technician III; L. Philip Lounibos, distinguished professor emeritus; Eva A. Buckner, assistant professor and state Extension specialist; Entomology and Nematology Departments, UF/IFAS Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, Vero Beach, FL 32962

New Mosquito Bulletin

***Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
BSI Standard Bromeliad Show at Edison- Ford Winter Estates***

By Calandra Thurrott

Ninety-four entries from 22 exhibitors. 78 Horticultural entries, 11 artistic and 5 miscellaneous entries. Ribbons included 62 AM, 25 Blue and the rest red or judged only. The following pictures are of the winners. Congratulations to all the exhibitors on the quality of the plants and exhibits entered. December 3rd – 5th 2021.

*Photos
Courtesy of
Dr. Larry
Giroux*



Mulford B. Foster Award– Best of Show Horticulture Aechmea tillandsioides Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl



Sweepstakes Award– Most “Blue Ribbons” Won Representative plant: Cryptanthus ‘Northern Lights’ Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux



Morris Henry Hobbs Award – Best of Show Artistic Cryptanthus colnagoi ‘Grazilla’ Exhibitor: Dr. Larry

*1Div I Sec A–
Neoregelia
‘Melanie’ Exhibitor:
Rick Batt*



*Div I –Goudaea ‘Josefa Leon’
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl*

*Div I Sec B– Aechmea
‘Jimmy Knight’
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl*





Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society BSI Standard Bromeliad Show at Edison - Ford Winter Estates



Div II—Nidularium litmus
Exhibitor: *Dr. Terrie Bert*



Div II Sec B –Billbergia ‘Fantasia’ x ‘DeNada’
Exhibitor: *Michael Michalski*



Members Choice—1st Place Neoregelia ‘Black Olive’
Exhibitor: *Michael Kiehl*



Div II Sec A–Sincoregelia ‘Cosmic Blast’ Exhibitor: *Dr. Terrie Bert*



Div I II Sec A– Tillandsia xiphioides x bergeri Exhibitor: *Betty Ann Prevatt*



Div I II Sec B– Tillandsia ‘Sweet Isabel’
Exhibitor: *Dr. Terrie Bert*



Div III –Tillandsia ‘Lucille’
Exhibitor: *Dr. Terrie Bert*



Div IV Sec B–Cryptanthus ‘Corinne’
Exhibitor: *Dr. Larry Giroux*



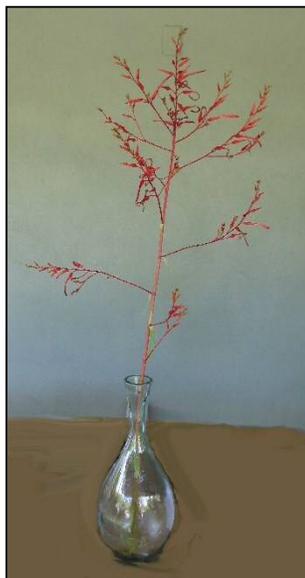
Div VI Sec A Best Judges’ Entry – Neoregelia ‘Hypershock’
Exhibitor: *John Boardman*



Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society BSI Standard Bromeliad Show at Edison- Ford Winter Estates



Div IV Sec A –Cryptanthus 'Cherry Cobbler'
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux



Div VI Sec C - Pitcairnia Inflorescence
Exhibitor: Michael Michalski



Bob Whitman Best Cryptanthus Group Hybrid Award Cryptanthus 'Aunt Beulah'
Exhibitor: Dr. Larry Giroux



Div VI Sec D – Artistic Expression Winner Abstract Neoregelia Quilt
Exhibitor: Robin Harris



The Gene McKenzie Best Tillandsia Award Tillandsia x smalliana
Exhibitor: Tom Cowell



Warren Loose Best Cryptanthus Group Species Award Cryptanthus warren-loosei
Exhibitor: Dr. Terrie Bert

Members Choice—2nd Place Neoregelia 'Wide Load'
Exhibitor: Rick Batt



Members Choice 3rd Place Neoregelia 'Fancy Francis'
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl

Excerpt from the December 2021, Edison and Ford Winter Estates Member Magazine, used by permission

NEW BROMELIAD GARDEN AT THE ESTATES

By Karen Maxwell, Horticultural Specialist

In two years' time, Edison and Ford Winter Estates will have the single largest collection of bromeliads anywhere in South Florida ... that is if Tom Cowell, orchid and bromeliad specialist at the Estates realizes his dream. I recently found him in the new Bromeliad Garden staking a three-foot-tall flower bloom for the bromeliad that inspired his mission – a rare specimen with a striking red flower, *Hohenbergia stellata* “Marie Valentine,” which was donated by local nursery legend, Betty Ann (Kinzie) Prevatt in 2019. Fast forward two years, and nearly 95% of the bromeliads our visitors see have been donated by Cowell – or he has cajoled friends and growers to donate plants. Today, the Bromeliad Garden now makes up a substantial part of what used to be Edison’s research garden area, located just inside the entrance from Marlyn Road. This area is perfect for bromeliads because the ficus trees provide protective shade for the plants.

The plant family of bromeliads (Bromeliaceae) contains thousands of species and all are native to the tropical and sub-tropical regions of the New World, such as Central America and South America, of which the best-known bromeliad is commercial pineapple (*Ananas comosus*). *When explorers first found pineapple cultivated in the Caribbean on the island of Guadeloupe, they wasted no time distributing the delicious fruit around the world. By the late 1500s, large pineapple plantations could be found in India, China, the Philippines and all tropical zones of the Old or Western World. Pineapple has been so widely cultivated for centuries around the globe, botanists are no longer able to identify a wild or uncultivated pineapple, and today they are considered a cultigen, a plant with no known wild parent.

In the late 1800s, there was something of a pineapple fever happening along the East Coast of the U.S. Prior to Edison’s purchase of his land in Fort Myers, an article by Sherman Adams for the Fort Myers News Press in 1885 documented coconut and pineapple plantations along the banks of the Caloosahatchee River. By 1885, coinciding with the year Edison purchased his initial 13 acres, almost every one of the families in Fort Myers (pop. 369) were growing pineapples and shipments from Florida

were going for 60 cents per pineapple in New York! Upon their purchase of the riverfront acreage, Thomas Edison along with friend and business partner, Ezra Gilliland decided to get in on the action and planted 1,500 pineapples. Whether they grew the pineapples for shipping and profit, or for the fibers the plants produced is not certain, but along with planting cassava* for its latex (also used to make tapioca), these two plants gave rise to the largest experimental garden in the western hemisphere. By 1908, Cuba was out-pacing Florida in volume and pricing of pineapples and in 1910, a disease called Red Wilt decimated the Florida pineapple market, followed by two killing freezes in the winters of 1917 and 1918 and the Florida commercial pineapple industry never recovered.



***Hohenbergia stellata*, Marie Valentine**

NEW BROMELIAD GARDEN AT THE ESTATES...continued

It appears that Edison, with the help of his caretaker, wished to continue to grow pineapples to feed his family and staff but suffered erratic success. In 1907-1908, Edison brought in large quantities of dried clay and his property caretaker, Ewald Stulpner, tilled the muck into the sandy soil in the very spot where the Bromeliad Garden is now featured. Stulpner also built a shade house for nearly 400 Smooth Cayenne Pineapples, but lost them all in one year. Given how easy it is to grow pineapples in our loose soil, it is not known if they succumbed to root rot (pineapples should be started in early Autumn to be well established before the rainy season) or to soil borne plant parasitic nematodes. Now, most of the Smooth Cayenne Pineapples are grown in Hawaii and known as Hawaiian pineapple – these will soon re-appear in the Estates’ gardens.

Surpassing the pineapple in Florida, ornamental bromeliads have taken an important place in South Florida gardens for the wide assortment of colors, shapes, ease of care, and the versatility for use in a landscape or container. Bromeliads are tropical or sub-tropical plants, and most are epiphytic (growing in trees) although there are several species that are terrestrial, where their roots anchor them to soil instead of trees. Almost all bromeliads reproduce vegetatively by pups or stolons, a type of stem that grows from the main plant. When you visit the Bromeliad Garden, look for many varieties that appear to be climbing up a host tree. If you mount them to a tree in your garden, take care to avoid using any copper wire, as bromeliads are highly sensitive to copper. An important key in succeeding with bromeliads, is to be sure to match the species or variety of bromeliad to its natural light requirements – this is the

only way to ensure emergence of the best colors and leaf patterns.

The Estates’ Bromeliad collection is home to varieties that represent the three major sub-families that collectively are Bromeliaceae.

- Pitcairnioideae – These are generally terrestrial and the oldest family of bromeliads, and are frequently spiny but some have grass-like foliage. They do not have a center leaf rosette for trapping water and produce winged seeds.
- Tillandsioideae – This is the largest group, is primarily epiphytic, and has smooth edged leaves with fuzzy or hairy seeds dispersed by wind. Air plants* (tillandsias), Spanish Moss* (which isn’t Spanish or a moss and is one of eighteen bromeliads native to Florida) and soft leaved Vriesea* and the popular Guzmania* are found in this grouping.
- Bromelioideae –



Aechmea nudicaulis

Home to the widest range of bromeliad plant forms, these



Vriesea, Mint Julep



Bromelia humilis
donated by Karen Flanders

strong plants are the most frequently cultivated, sporting serrated or spiny leaf edges and the seeds and berries distributed by birds. This family includes the pineapple, which in nature, is pollinated by hummingbirds; Billbergias,* Bromelias,* Neoregelias,* compact Cryptanthus* and Aechmeas* which alone, account for 25 percent of the species in this sub-family.

NEW BROMELIAD GARDEN AT THE ESTATES...continued



Tom Cowell with *Aechmea rubens*.

Given the vast number of species available, it is understandable why collectors become so passionate about these colorful and easy-care plants. As primarily epiphytic, the roots of bromeliads – as in orchids – only serve to anchor the plant, and water and nutrition is collected in the center of tank-type bromeliads. To



Debbie Hughes with *Venus* and *Flirting Neoregelias* at Bromeliad Christmas Tree

some gardeners, there is concern that these tanks provide a breeding ground for mosquitos. While mosquitos are a fact of life in Florida, an understanding of the type of mosquito and some preventative maintenance tips for bromeliad collectors should allay most fears. The mosquito larvae found in 98.8% of *Billbergia pyramidalis*,* a so-called tank-type bromeliad, was part of a study conducted by the University of Florida in Daytona, Tampa, Vero Beach and Miami, and determined to be the larvae of “*Wyeomyia*” a species of mosquito that does not transmit disease to humans. According to world-renowned entomologist, Dr. J. Howard Frank, Professor Emeritus at the University of Florida, there are three ecological steps one can take to minimize mosquito breeding if concerned: 1.) Do not allow grass clippings to get into the water reservoirs of planted bromeliads where it can collect and stagnate; 2.) Avoid tight, compact colonies of *Neoregelia* bromeliads where the rotting flowers will also stagnate and attract larvae; and 3.) Flush the reservoirs weekly with fresh water which will interrupt the mosquito larvae cycle. A couple of drops of vegetable oil every few weeks in the water reservoir will also smother any larvae, but do this sparingly to avoid hurting the plant itself. For further information on this subject, visit www.fcbs.org, the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.

We hope you will soon find an opportunity to stroll the meandering paths through the enchanting Bromeliad Garden in the shade of a historic canopy and learn more about this popular tropical plant group. On December 4 and 5 we will host the annual Bromeliad Show and Sale of the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society. Experts and growers will be available to answer questions and offer plants for sale. If you would like information for landscaping with bromeliads, please contact me at kmaxwell@edisonford.org and I will be happy to email you the sheet.



Bromeliad Garden at EFWE

If you wish to donate any unusual bromeliads to the Estates' gardens, please contact the Horticulture Department directly at dhughes@edisonford.org. To learn more, enthusiasts can join the Bromeliad VIP Collectors, and the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society on Facebook.

**indicates plants in the Edison and Ford Winter Estates gardens.*

CAMPING AND COLLECTING IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES

By Tom Wolfe

Many Friday afternoons after getting off work, several members of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay would rendezvous at the house of Harry & Vonda Cunningham in Southeast Tampa. After all the gear, food and gas was loaded, including Harry's swamp buggy, we would head out for the Big Cypress Swamp, now known as the Big Cypress National Preserve in Collier County, Florida. We would pull off of State Road 29 and head east on old logging trams.

In the early 1900's lumber companies were conducting extensive logging operations in that part of the Everglades including the Fakahatchee Strand. This entire area is swamp with varying depths of water. Huge digging equipment would pull lime rock out of the water and pile it up creating make-shift roads for the logging equipment to access the areas to be logged.

We would usually arrive around 10 or 11 PM and drive down one of the trams until we found a suitable spot to pull off and make camp. Night in the Everglades is pitch dark and so quiet you ears had a hard time adjusting. Arms and face would be black with misquotes and insect repellent did very little to help.

At first dawn of daylight we were up and out. The men would gather up some fire wood and start a campfire, open up some folding chairs and a table and make a pot of coffee. Then the ladies would fix some grits, eggs, and bacon. After breakfast the men would head off into the swamp, some to hunt deer, but Harry and I would take the swamp buggy to hunt bromeliads and orchids.

The buggy would be adequate as long as we were on the logging trams but to get where we could collect the plants, we would need to wade into water 6 inches to three feet deep.

During these camping trips in the late 1960's and 1970's, the *Tillandsia fasciculata* were very plentiful. *T. fasciculata* var. *densispica*, the most common, was obtained easily; however, *T. fasciculata* var. *clavispica* was more widespread and *T. densispica* forma *alba* was very hard to locate. One of our main objectives was to locate a bay head where *Guzmania monostachias* were growing. *G. monostachia* is a small green plant with an erect inflorescence resembling a red and white candle. The objective was to find a variegated one. We would see at least a thousand green ones to one variegated one and finding one with good variegation was a real find.

At this point we were wandering in water sometimes waist deep. Cottonmouth moccasins would slither off the huge logs abandoned by loggers and disappear in the water around us.



Top: *Till. fasciculata* var. *densispica*
Bottom: *Till. fasciculata* var. *clavispica*

CAMPING AND COLLECTING IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES...continued

Incidentally this was before the Burmese python era and the alligators were few and far between because of the poaching. At that time, the alligator hunting was common causing them to be put on the endangered species list in 1967. Soon after the law went into effect, it became illegal to sell shoes, belts, purses, boots, and other items that were made from alligator hide. However, diamondback rattle snakes were plentiful in the higher elevations further west through the scrub cypress area.

On occasion, we would spot a *Catopsis nutans*. This species is by far the smallest of the three members of this genus found in Florida. It has dark green leaves and a pendant, slightly branched inflorescence. It's very rare and endangered. However, *Catopsis floribunda* could also be spotted

Catopsis nutans



in this area among the bald cypress, Carolina Ash, Red Maple and Pond Apple trees. This species has an erect inflorescence and is highly collectable. The third *Catopsis berteroniana* was

Catopsis berteroniana



Guzmania monostachia forma variegata



evident further west in the scrub cypress usually high in the trees where it received almost full sun, especially during the winter months. This species has yellowish foliage covered with a powdery wax that allows it to trap insects, frogs and lizards. Taxonomist designates it as a photo-carnivore rather than a carnivorous plant such as the Venus flytrap. The distribution of all these *Catopsis* seems to be confined to Collier and Monroe Counties. *Tillandsia pruinosa* having a dense cover of trichomes would indicate to me that it's a full sun plant. However, we found it only in the dense covering of the forest. This species was also endangered at that time. There was a scattering of *Tillandsia utriculata* as well as *T. variabilis*. Other species that seemed abundant were *T. balbisiana* and *T. bartramii*.

Tillandsia pruinosa Endangered



After a few days of being tired, wet, dirty and mosquito bitten, it was great to leave the swamp and come home to a hot shower, a good hot meal and a soft bed!

Bromeliad Show and Sale — Who Does it Take to Make it Great?

By Calandra Thurrott

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society pulled together another wonderful show this past December 2021. BSI Judges, sale vendors, and the staff of Edison-Ford Winter Estates came together in Fort Myers, Florida for the event.

Photographs at a bromeliad event are usually of just the plants and specifically of the plants on the head table. This time I thought it would be fun to get participants in action.

Left: Bromeliad Christmas Tree

Photos by Calandra Thurrott



Judges, Clerks, and Show Chairs



Left: Caloosahatchee Student Judge Alison Ackerman with quilted entry by Robin Harris

Right: Student Judges: Marian Kennell, Ofelia Sorzano & Show Chair Betty Ann Prevatt

Below: Student Judge Richard Poole with Best of Show *Aechmea tillandsioides*—Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl



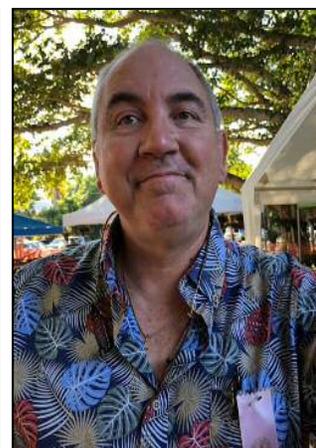
*Tom Cowell, Edison-Ford Estates
Orchid & Bromeliad Specialist*



*Tropiflora Brian Weber &
Michael Michalski*



*Student Judge Richard
Poole*



Judge Rick Ryals



SHOW VENDORS – Photos by Calandra Thurrott



Judge John Boardman and Awards,
Head table, Photography Chair, etc.
Dr. Larry Giroux



Kelly Ahnen



Dr. Terrie Bert



Patty Gonzalez & Michael Michalski



Div I



Sec B- Aechmea 'Jimmy Knight'
Exhibitor: Michael Kiehl & Judge John Boardman





**2020-2021 ANNUAL SPEAKERS LISTING FOR
FCBS SOCIETY MEETINGS**

Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, Inc.

Rein Verbech, Advantages of Beekeeping and its Importance to our Food Chain
Tom Wolfe, Florida Natives Bromeliads you should know
Dennis Cathcart, Understanding Bromeliads
Tom Wolfe - Kaleidoscope of Neos
Teresa Eddy, Arrangement from your Backyard
Jay Thurrott, "A visit to Northern California bromeliad Gardens"
Ray Lemieux, Separating and propagating various types of bromeliads
Ken Stokes, Mounting Bromeliads
Tom Wolfe "Aechmeas are Easy, Full Sun and Cold Hardy"
Richard Poole :The BSI's presentation on Pitcarnia
Tom and Carol Wolfe presentation of "Bromeliads in Paradise"
Steve Byrum's - "Bromeliads 101"
Alton Lee, "

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

Ken Stokes - Dyckias, Hechtias and Terrestrials
Tom Wolfe - Kaleidoscope of Neos
Terrie Bert - Growing Bromeliads in South Florida
Dr. Brian Sidoto - Program Coordinator for the Fairchild Challenge - Research & Outreach activities on long lived large leaf Fl Bromeliads
Alex Bello - Taste of the Tropics - slide show on Chester Skotak Plants

FECBS Programs for 2020-2021

Pinky Ormand of Life Palette--How to make Hypertufa pots for bromeliads.
Bob Smedley gave a presentation on various ways to mount bromeliads
Myrna Moore. Her topic was Desert Roses. Re-potting, pruning, culture, identifying, grafted vs. non grafted, seed vs. cuttings, and anything else you would want to know about Desert Roses. We were outside in her garden where she has many orchids, succulents, and bromeliads to enjoy.
EFG Orchids, 4265 Marsh Rd., DeLand, tour of the greenhouse & an opportunity to purchase plants.
Rosie Byard garden tour—Palm Coast
Steve Byrum's - "Bromeliads 101"
Ray Lemieux will show us how to separate and propagate various types of bromeliads
Dave Johnston will speak on taking, growing bromeliads to the next level.
Grant Groves' experience with his business, Color Zone Tropicals. and his new lifestyle since retiring.
Tom and Carol Wolfe presentation of "Bromeliads in Paradise"

Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society 2021 Meetings

Tom Wolfe, Kaleidoscope of Neos
Prem Subrahmanyam, Florida's Wild Orchids
Dennis Cathcart, Collecting the World's Largest Tillandsia
Steve Byram, Made in the Shade: Design on a Dime Where the Sun Don't Shine
Jason Mellica, Rise of the Tiger Neo's, Mellica's Hybrids
Kenneth Stokes, Various Growth Habits of Bromeliads
Terrie Bert - A Survey of Common & Unusual Bromeliads
Priscilla Debler - Orchids in the Florida Cold



2020-2021 SPEAKERS FOR FCBS SOCIETY MEETING

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

Dennis Cathcart, Understanding Bromeliads
Field Trip McCrory's Sunny Hill Nursery
Greg Kolojeski, Aechmeas in Florida
Greg Kolojeski, Bromeliads and Other Florida Tropical Plants in Spring and Summer
Kenneth Stokes, Important Facts about Growing Bromeliads
Tom Wolfe, Aechmeas where the Growing is Easy
SBTPS Annual Fall Plant Sale
Jack Dunlop: Getting to Know Honey Bees
Member Garden Visits in DeLand
Dave Johnston: A Look Back 40 Years

FWCBS 2021-2022

Richard Poole :The BSI's presentation on Pitcarnia
Dr Sally Chambers (Selby Gardens) "Taxonomic Status & Conservation of Tillandsia utriculata"
Guillermo Rivera " Diversity of Bromeliads in Central Brazil"
Ray Lemieux The BSI presentation on Dyckias
Annual Garden Social in lieu of Annual Auction
Dave Johnston's "A Look Back at 40 Years of Bromeliad Growing"
Alton Lee Bromeliads 101, All the Basics
Dennis Cathcart: "Cloud Forests of South America"
Dr. Bruce Holst " Mysteries of Herbaria"
Group Discussion: "Our History of FWCBS" and "Past World Conference Displays"
Ken Stokes "Diverse Growth Habits of Bromeliads"
Jason Mellica "Rise of the Tiger Neo's"

BSCF Speakers/Programs for 2020—2021

Matt Bagley Bonita Broms. Soil Structure or Members share their wonderful plants
Jay Thurrott "A visit to Northern California bromeliad Gardens"
John Boardman. "Variations of Variegation"
Teresa Eddy. Decorations for Christmas using bromeliads
Steve and Marilyn Byram "Bromeliads 101."
John and Pam How to prepare your broms for the Mother's Day Show and Sale
Tom Wolfe "Aechmeas are Easy, Full Sun and Cold Hardy"
John and Pam "The Natives Are Coming"
Dave Johnston, Billbergias
Mike McMahan, Tillandsias
Terrie Bert
Calandra Thurrott

In addition to speakers, here were some other popular "to do" activities:

Favorite containers or tools to talk about	Zoom meetings
Members show and tell	Annual Spring Plant Sale
Bromeliad Bingo—with bromeliads for prizes	Members Market
Member Garden Visits	Pineapple Day
Annual Fall Plant Sale	Christmas party
Annual Holiday Dinner Party	Pizza night
Member market	



Speakers at the World Bromeliad Conference 2022

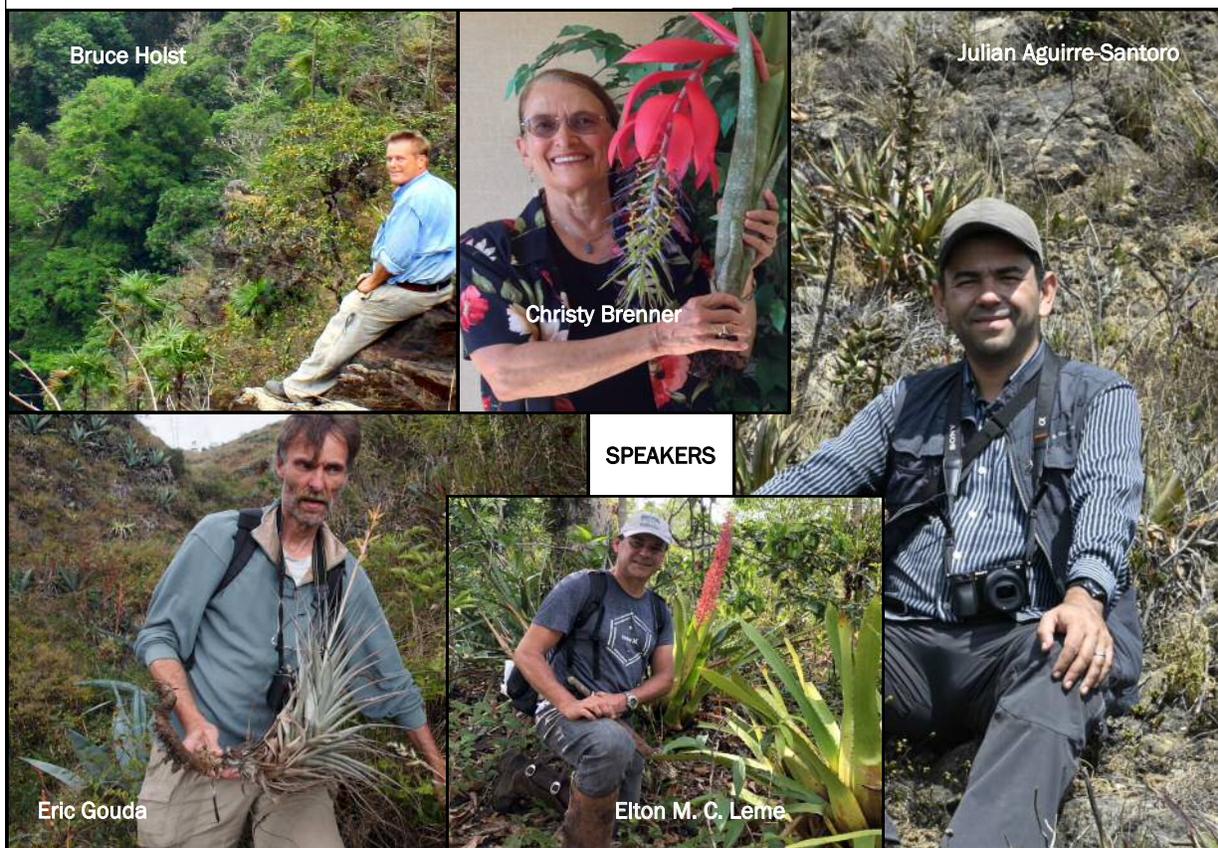
by Gregory Kolojeski, WBC 2022 Conference Co-Chair

Special thanks go to Dennis Cathcart as the Speaker Chair for coming up with such a great lineup of speakers for the World Bromeliad Conference to be held in Sarasota, Florida, USA on June 8-11, 2022. If you haven't registered yet for the conference, you can still do so at

<https://www.bsi.org/>.

WBC 2022 Speakers and Topics

Speaker	Location	Topic – Presentations on June 10 th and 11 th
Julián Aguirre-Santoro	Colombia	Bromeliads of Colombia: Diversity, Conservation and Evolution
Graeme Barclay	New Zealand	Broms in the Bush – and the BSD
Cristy Brenner	California	Bromeliad Adventures in Peru
Eric Gouda	Netherlands	The Encyclopaedia of Bromeliads Project
Bruce Holst	Florida	Ecosystem Services Provided by Bromeliads
Elton Leme	Brazil	Ananas Revisited – A Review of the Ananasoid Complex
Jerry Raack	Ohio	Colorful Higher Elevation Bromeliads of Southern Ecuador
Ivon Ramirez	Mexico	No More Little Pieces but the Whole Kit and Caboodle: Plastomes in Hechtioideae
Elton Leme	Brazil	Banquet Keynote Speaker on June 11th – Amazonian Neoregelia





Ivon Ramirez



Jerry Raack



Grame Barclay

SPEAKERS

WORLD BROMELIAD CONFERENCE

June 8 – 11, 2022

Hyatt Regency , Sarasota, Florida

You can still register for the conference

but online ONLY

at <https://www.bsi.org/>

Registration Fee and New Membership: \$335.00

if postmarked up to May 26, 2022

\$395.00 thereafter

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 12-13

Leu Gardens Plant Sale

1920 N. Forest Ave.

Orlando, FL

9 am - 5 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 , FL

An Easy Makeshift Greenhouse

By Greg Kolojeski

At a Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society meeting back in November, our speaker discussed how she had built several greenhouses to protect her orchids. Essentially, they consisted of things like cypress logs with greenhouse plastic sheeting. Not long after that, a lightbulb went off in my head. I had an outdoor area that had wooden beams and an 8-foot high ceiling right next to the house in the pool area. It was 31 feet long and 7 feet wide with spaced support beams. The floor was a concrete slab one step up from the pool deck.



After a little searching, I located some white heavy duty tarps on the Home Depot website. They came in numerous sizes including 8x20 feet and 5x7 feet and were just what I needed. After considering a number of hook options, I decided to go with 1½ inch cup hooks.

It only took an hour or so to hang the tarps. Starting on the left side, I stood on a small ladder and used an awl to start a small hole in the wooden beam along the top and then turned each cup hook until it was fully inserted into the beam. I hung up the tarp hook by hook using a pencil to mark the next spot for a hook matching each grommet on the tarp. I partially hung the tarp after installing each hook. I then positioned the second 20' tarp overlapping the first so that it would end at the correct spot on the right.

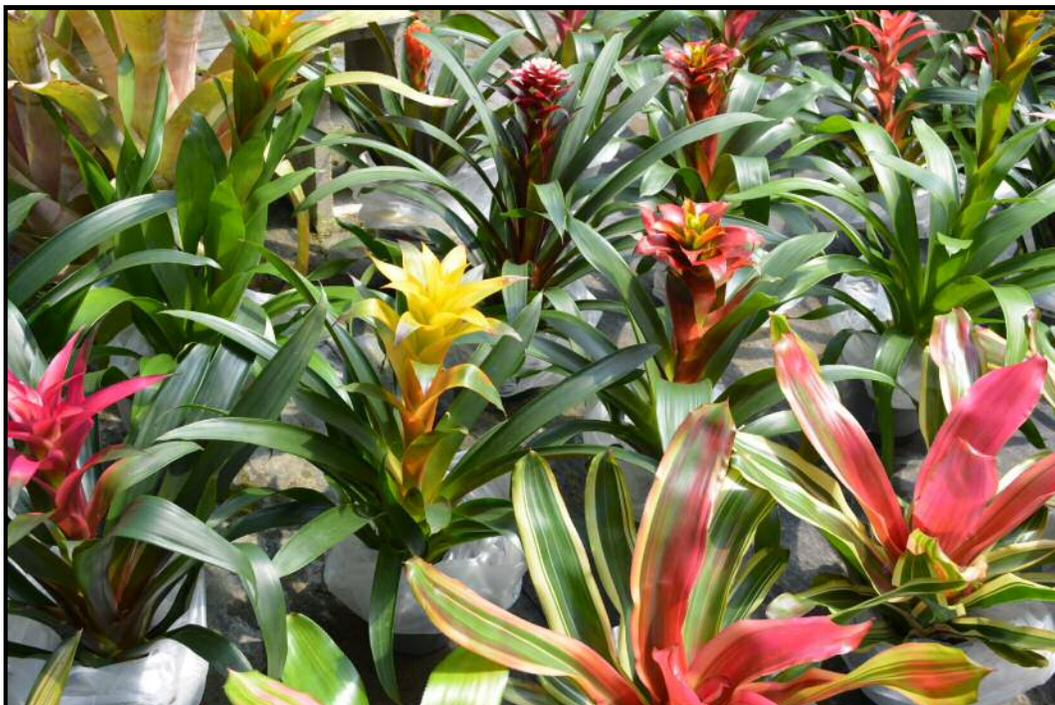


After finishing hanging the two long tarps, I used a permanent magic marker to mark the upper left and upper right sides of the tarps and placed a line on one tarp to show the edge of the overlap. It took 10 or 15 minutes to remove the tarps and place them in clear plastic bags for future use.

It should be noted that the cup hooks were remarkably easy to install just by turning by hand to screw them in. In a few cases, a small screwdriver was inserted into the hook area and turned for final bit of tightening. The next step was to order a small portable electric heater that I had seen online at Greenhouse Megastore for \$99.

As luck would have, it was only two weeks later when weather forecasts indicated we would have some nights in the lower 30s and one night dropping into the 20s. I starting moving all my Bromeliads that were in pots into the area that would be enclosed by the tarps. I also added a number of orchids that had been hanging in the pool area and throughout the backyard garden area. Up went the tarps and I was ready for what turned out to be the first freeze in four years.

This makeshift greenhouse in the pool area was successfully used for frost protection of the plants. With a thermostat-controlled electric heater on a low setting, the night-time temps ranged from 51 to 54 (according a min/max wireless digital thermometer) while the outside temperature got down to 33. The next night, the tarps kept the temps 10 degrees higher than the outside temps even without turning on the electric heater. The tarps were left up as the forecast showed a night in the 20s coming up. The forecast was right since the temperatures dropped to 29 for a couple of hours, but my makeshift greenhouse never went any lower than 51 degrees.





NEW EXHIBIT AT SELBY!

SELBY GARDENS

Opens Sunday, February 13!

Robert Mapplethorpe and Patti Smith: Flowers, Poetry, and Light

JEAN & ALFRED GOLDSTEIN EXHIBITION SERIES

ROBERT
MAPPLETHORPE
AND
PATTI SMITH

FLOWERS, POETRY,
AND LIGHT



Robert Mapplethorpe, *Hyacinth*, 1987. Courtesy of Graphicalville, University of South Florida Collection and Robert Mapplethorpe Foundation.

SELBYGARDENS
The Living Museum®

Downtown Sarasota campus
1534 Mound Street
Sarasota, Florida 34236

Starting this Sunday, Marie Selby Botanical Gardens will spotlight the work of **Robert Mapplethorpe**, one of the most significant photographers of the 20th century, together with the poetry of legendary singer-songwriter and poet **Patti Smith** in a special exhibition on view throughout the garden's 15-acre Downtown Sarasota campus.

Marking the sixth edition of the Gardens' annual Jean & Alfred Goldstein Exhibition Series, which explores the work of major artists through the lens of their connection to nature, this immersive exhibition puts a selection of Mapplethorpe's photographs of orchids, hyacinths, and irises, and excerpts of Smith's poems and lyrics on flowers and nature, in dialogue with new horticultural installations inspired by the two artists' work.