

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

Next meeting Sunday, July 11th **1:00p.m.**
Colony in the Wood
4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange

July, 2010

Happy 4th of July!

President – Jay Thurrott – 386/761-4804

Vice President – Jerry O’Keefe – 407/767-2442

Secretary – Audrey Hayes – 407/421-4026

Treasurer – Eve Krauth – 386/763-2084

Warm weather, barbecue, fireworks and red, white and blue – those are the visions most people conjure up at mention of the July 4th holiday. Just in time for the event a plant in my yard with the name tag of Ae. ‘Patriot’ has sent up its bloom spike for the first ever since I was given it several years ago. It’s hardly a spectacular bloom, but I imagine that its name is related to the red bracts, white scurfy spike and blue flowers. The plant is reputedly very cold hardy since one of its parents is Ae. disticantha but where I’ve placed this one, the full Summer sun is more of a stress to it than the Winter cold and maybe that’s why it has been so reluctant to bloom before now.

Last month’s meeting...

Tom Wolfe shared a really nice program with us on the legacy of Roberto Burle Marx and Longwood Gardens. Beautiful photos of the gardens (Carol Wolfe’s handiwork) and a fascinating commentary by Tom made for a very enjoyable meeting despite the a/c problems in the building.

This month’s meeting

There’s a bit of uncertainty as to whether the a/c will be fixed at the Garden Center in time

for this month’s meeting, so when Jean Hochdoerfer volunteered the club house at ‘Cedar in the Woods’ in Port Orange for this month’s meeting, I was only too happy to accept on behalf of our group. Directions to the club house are included in this month’s newsletter. Thank you Jean! Here are the directions to find the meeting place:

Please note the time of 1:00p.m. this month!

Colony in the Wood is located at 4000 South Clyde Morris Blvd in Port Orange.

If the folks are coming from DeLand, they go South on 95 & exit at Port Orange making a left (East) onto Dunlawton.

Follow Dunlawton a few lights to Clyde Morris & make a left...Go thru 2 lights, & after passing the new Police Station (on right) get into left lane for turn into Colony In the Wood.

Everyone seems to have noticed the large white globes at the entry to CIW.

If coming from Beville Road, go south on ClydeMorris & CIW will be immediately on the right after passing Madeline (McDonald's).

If coming from Ormond (anywhere north) on I-95 S to Port Orange Exit...Left on

Dunlawton, etc. Or just come straight thru on Clyde Morris.

The clubhouse will be directly in front of you after the 2 stop signs. There is plenty of parking, half to the left & half on the right. Enter thru the front door or thru the pool area on either side. (see a map on the last page of this newsletter for directions)

This month's meeting theme will be "pot-luck" and we'll start it with a picnic lunch. Please bring your favorite dish – whether it be a salad, main course, desert or anything in between. We just ask that you contact Jerry O'Keefe so that he can coordinate what is being brought. His number is 407/767-2442 or 407/353-8099. In the true spirit of "pot-luck" we're also going to have a pot-luck plant raffle. These are plants that, for whatever reason, have lost their identification tags and, although we may have a few clues as to their names, we're really not too sure. Look them over, decide whether you would like to take one home with you, and buy a raffle ticket for a chance on a 'pot-luck' plant – no guarantees on the correct names! Bring one of your nameless orphans to share in the raffle and we'll do our best to put a name to it.

Who knew?...

Sometimes you can run into bromeliads for sale in unexpected places. Recently when Calandra and I were visiting in St. Augustine we came across a small gift shop with an impressive array of "bare root" (ok, most of them didn't have any roots at all but I don't know what else to call them) and mounted Tillandsias for sale. The plants were in excellent condition, the prices very reasonable, and the mounts on driftwood were expertly done – none of those T. ionanthas glued to refrigerator magnets so often seen in gift shops and doomed to a short life. We inquired as to where they

came from and were surprised to find that the proprietors grew many of the plants themselves (locally), but brought in others from a company called "Air Plant World" (www.airplantworld.com) that lists their address as being on International Dr. in Orlando. Have you found plants for sale in unusual places? Let us know of other unusual sources of bromeliads and we'll share that information with the rest of our group.

Miscellaneous...

For those of you looking for the Boca Raton Bromeliad Society website and newsletter, they have changed their organization's name to the Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches – to more accurately describe their membership base. I had the pleasure of addressing their group this past year and had a very nice time at their meeting. If you happen to be in the neighborhood of the Mounts Botanical Gardens on the third Thursday of each month (7:30pm) stop in and see them. You'll have a good time!

Do you need more plastic coated wire for mounting bromeliads on wood? Let me know and I'll be sure to bring some in for the next meeting.

Does anyone else grow *Canistrum triangulare*? I've had a multiple mounted on wood for quite a few years now and every once in a while I'll see a nice orange tulip-shaped bloom arise from the clump. This year every plant in the clumps sent up a bloom! At the same time, Alan Herndon a commercial grower in the Miami area has commented that a large number of his *Canistrum triangulares* unexpectedly came into bloom. What triggered blooms in widely separated area of the state? We may never know – and that's what keeps this hobby so interesting and challenging.

What's in Bloom?

Tillandsia hondurensis is a nice looking plant even when it's not in bloom, but this inflorescence is simply the icing on the cake!



Vriesea 'Asahi' is a plant that I've grown for quite a few years and I think I'm finally getting the hang of this – this year my 'Asahi' has sent up a nice, branched bloom that's about as good as I've ever seen for this plant.



Upcoming Events:

July 10th

Quarterly Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies meeting at Selby Gardens in Sarasota. Lunch at noon followed by the meeting.

July 10, 11

Tropical Plant Fair at USF Botanical Gardens. 4202 E. fowler Ave., Tampa 10a.m. to 3p.m.

July 10, 11

International Mango Festival at Fairchild Tropical Gardens, Coral Gables 9:30-4:30 each day.

July 28th – Aug. 10th, 2010

“Bromeliads in the Big Easy”

BSI World Conference in New Orleans.

It won't be long now! Miss this event and it will two years before you have another opportunity. For more information, check the following web site:

http://www.gnobromeliads.com/GNOBS_WBC2010.htm

