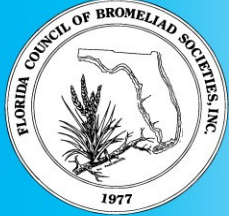




FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES

Volume 37 Issue 3

August 2017



Happy 40th Anniversary 1977 - 2017



Florida Council for Bromeliad Societies





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Sudi Hipsley, 6616 Tusawilla Drive, Leesburg, FL 34748-9190
If you have questions regarding your contribution, please call Sudi at 352-504-6162

Cover Photograph: Extravaganza 2017 by Carol Wolfe

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2017 Bromeliad Extravaganza ***The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies*** ***and the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay***



The August weather held true to the tradition of being the hottest month of the year in Florida. However, that didn't stop our bromeliad people from attending the Extravaganza and 165 registrants braving the hot weather to the "Bromeliad Extravaganza" in Tampa. What an exciting time it was for the host, members of the Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay, whose members worked hard preparing for the Extravaganza. We had beautiful red, green, orange, blue, and black tote bags with our logo, "Bromeliad By the Bay," imprinted on them and the bags included water, snacks, and information for our registrants. On Thursday, prior to the Extravaganza, Fox Channel 13, WTVT's Charley Belcher, met us at Paula Benway's beautiful home and garden on the Hillsborough River. The TV's station's truck arrived about 5:45 AM and raised a 30' broadcasting antennae in the air, turned the lights on the bromeliads, and from 6:30 AM to 9:30 AM, filmed four live segments with Tom Wolfe, Paula Benway, and Eileen Hart. They represented the "Bromeliad World" well with their answers even taking questions online from Twitter. In between the sessions, they ran teasers advertising the Bromeliad Extravaganza. The interview was shown again at noon and on the late news Thursday evening. It was great publicity for our event.



The lobby was filled with beautiful baskets made by Selma Sappenfield, Elle Dodard, and others. Everyone was awed at the expertise in putting together these theme baskets and many purchased tickets hoping to be one of the lucky winners! Our thanks to Lisa Robinette and the BSCF for also donating a beautiful basket.

We want to thank Betsy McCrory, Greg Kologeski (thankfully, who repaired the cash registers), Mike Saunders, and their team for the great work in organizing the sales and cash registers. You did an awesome job! Special thanks to our vendors for their participation: Marty Baxley, Jungle Gems; Pam Koide-Hyatt, Bird Rock Tropicals; Michael Michalski, Mike's Bromeliads; Dennis and Linda Cathcart, Tropiflora Nursery; Michael and Donna Kiehl, Michael's Bromeliads; Tom Wolfe, Lobo Landscaping, Stephen Littlefield, Underhill Studio; Grant Groves and Keli Ahnen, Color Zone Tropicals, Inc.; Georgia and Will Orser, McCrory's Sunny Hill Nursery; David & Geri Prall, Palm Tree Gardens; and everyone that participated in membership sales, thank you! During the 7-hour sale about \$25,000 of bromeliads were sold!





Friday's BBQ buffet was well attended and all attendees can claim, "*We are a Close Knit Group*" as we squeezed into our very tight seats but the BBQ was delicious! Our thanks to Jay Thurrott, Calandra Thurrott, Rick Ryals, Francisco Cardoso and their committee for a great decorating job for the FCBS's 40th Anniversary. In addition to the colorful celebration banner (on front cover) festive decorations and balloons, we sang "Happy Birthday" to the FCBS. Tom Wolfe, Extravaganza Chairman, welcomed everyone to the Extravaganza. Jay Thurrott, FCBS Chairman, shared the historical beginning of the FCBS and the current programs that FCBS supports. Rick Ryals held drawings and gave away beautiful bromeliads and yard art. For dessert, we had an anniversary cake complete with the FCBS Logo which was delicious!

Saturday morning breakfast was served by the pool area and if you ate before the sun came up, it wasn't too hot under the canopy!

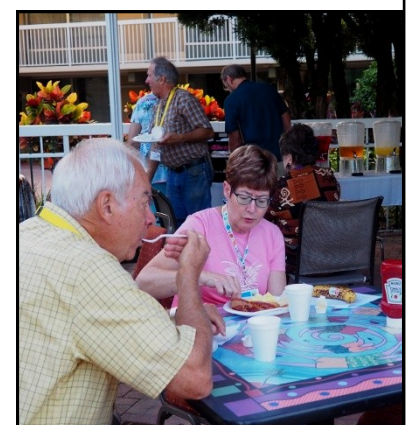
The keynote speaker, Pam Koide-Hyatt, world expert on Tillandsias, gave an excellent presentation twice to the attendees. Dr. Lawrence Giroux, Bruce Holst, and Kenneth Stokes received many compliments from the seminars attendees. Our sincere thanks to the seminar speakers for all the time and effort they put into their programs!

The banquet and rare plant auction was held in the ballroom. The meal was delicious and Auctioneer, Ray Lemieux, moved the auction at top notch speeds and the bids were loud and fast all over the ballroom. It was a real fun night!

The Rare Plant Auction Chairs, Rick Ryals and Jay Thurrott, had a great team of workers, Francisco Cardoso, Calandra Thurrott, Sudi Hipsley, Betsy McCrory, Vicky Chirside, Patty Gonzales, Charlie Birdsong, Alan Bennett, Larry & Susan Sousa and others. They did a great job helping Ray.

The auction raised over \$5,000, thanks to all the societies and individuals who donated bromeliads to the auction.

Photos by Marilyn Byram





Sunday morning was topped off with home tours and bus bingo for real money! The first stop was the home of Eileen & Robert Hart, in Odessa. Eileen is well known in the horticultural community for growing bromeliads. She grows a wide variety of bromeliad species and hybrids among a variety of trees on their two acres of land. She loves growing bromeliads in a natural form on the ground, trees, driftwood and allows nature to take its course. This was a great opportunity to see one of the most unusual and unique properties growing bromeliads. The second stop was to the immaculate garden of Paula Benway in Temple Terrace. This lovely home is on the Hillsborough River surrounded with bromeliads. The waterfall flows into the river while surrounded by a three tier deck, bromeliads, yard art and lots of other plant families.

Our third stop was Verna & Robert Dickey in Brandon. Verna loves growing bromeliads in a variety of containers such as hanging baskets, pottery, and yard art. Their five acres is an oasis in the middle of a busy city. Under the numerous shaded oak trees, the natural winding pathways are surrounded with bromeliads. We thank our host for their wonderful hospitality in allowing us to visit their gardens and homes.





Thanks to Ken Stokes for the interesting exhibit in the lobby of the Hotel.

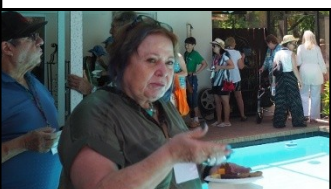
Thanks to our Banquet Centerpiece Committee for the beautiful centerpieces: Paula Benway, John and Kay Miller, Linda Reynolds, Selma Sappenfield, and Annette Williams. Lucky registrants at each table with a green tab on the bottom of their chair won the arrangement.

Thanks to the Extravaganza 2017 Committee members for their hard work! **The Committee was made up of BGTB members and members of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies.** It was a hard working, joint, and cooperative effort on the part of everyone to make the Extravaganza a success. It was successful because of your attendance at the conference. No matter how hard we worked, it would have been in vain, if **YOU** had not come to share the time with us. One person said they were so sorry that they could not come and I was sorry too, because it is an event that can never be repeated. Yes, there will be many other Extravaganzas but there will never be another one just like this one!

For those that attended, we hope you will enjoy your new bromeliads and keep your good memories of the 2017 Extravaganza for many years!

YOUR EXTRAVAGANZA TEAM!

Photos by Marilyn Byram





Photos by Marilyn Byram





Photos by Marilyn Byram





Photos by Marilyn Byram





Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Show May 12-14, 2017

Celebrating their 40th Mothers Day Show & Sale



**Neoregelia
carcharodon
'Rainbow'
by John
Boardman**



**Bromelia
balansae By
Lisa Robinette**



**Hohenbergia 'Karla'
By Jim Pearce**

**Photos by
Carol Wolfe**



**Neoregelia [(Carolineae variegated x Hannibel Lector) x Norman Bates]
x (Skotaks Tiger x Norman Bates) By John Boardman**



**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Show May 12-14, 2017
Celebrating their 40th Mothers Day Show & Sale**



**Tillandsia gardneri
By Eloise Beach**



**Vriesea Fosteriana x
John Hirota
By Grant Groves**



**Billbergia Domingos
Martins x Afterglow
by Lisa Robinette**

**Photos by
Carol Wolfe**



**Billbergia Domingos Martins x Bucholtzii
By Grant Groves**





**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Show May 12-14, 2017
Celebrating their 40th Mothers Day Show & Sale**



**Cryptanthus Thriller
By Lisa Robinette**

**Photos
by
Carol
Wolfe**



**Aechmea nudicaulis Parati
by Lisa Robinette**



**Catopsis subulata
(male) by Eloise Beach**



**Aechmea martensii
By John Boardman**



**Neo
Patricia
By Marty
Folk**



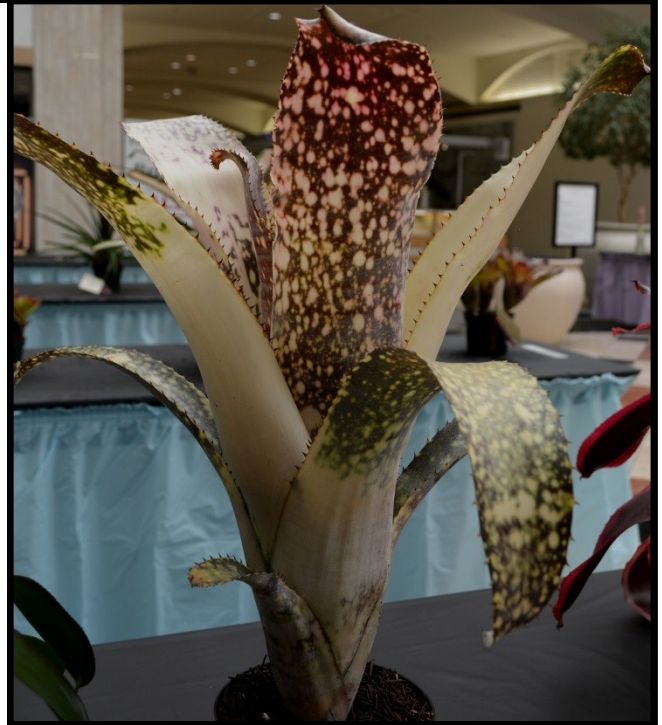
Crypt. Warsii By Jim Pearce



**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Show May 12-14, 2017
Celebrating their 40th Mothers Day Show & Sale**



**Aechmea
orlandiana
"White Knight"
by Lisa Robinette**



**Billbergia Bruddah Iz
by John Boardman**



**Vriesea Energy
By Evan
McCrary**



Neoregelia Chester by John Boardman



**Vriesea Arden
By Evan McCrary**



**Billbergia Tuti
Fruiti by Lisa
Robinette**

**Photos by
Carol Wolfe**



**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Show May 12-14, 2017
Celebrating their 40th Mothers Day Show & Sale**



Orthophytum glabrum
by Lisa Robinette



Tillandsia duratii (giant Argentina)
by Eloise Beach



Guzmania whitmackii purple
by Grant Groves



Neo correia-araujoi albo marginated
by John Boardman

Photos by
Carol Wolfe



Neo Inferno
By Evan McCrory



Crypt microglazioui by John Boardman



Neo Golden Glow by Lisa Robinette



Neo Kings Ransom by Evan McCrory



Neo Hell Fire by John Boardman



Till Antonio
by Evan McCrory



**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Show May 12-14, 2017
Celebrating their 40th Mothers Day Show & Sale**



Cannistrum triangulare
by Lisa Robinette



Guz Optima
By Evan McCrory



Dyckia goehringii by Lisa Robinette



Till faciculata by John Boardman



**Neoregelia
Touchdown**
By John Boardman



Nidularium atalaisense by Lisa Robinette



Hohenbergia Pennae
by Lisa Robinette



Neoregelia Levcana
by John Boardman



Till concolor
by Lisa Robinette

Photos by Carol Wolfe



Bill Pink Patches by Lisa Robinette



Mexican Bromeliad Weevil Report May-July 2017 Teresa Marie Cooper Save Florida's Bromeliads Conservation Project Newberry, Florida

On 21 July 2017, I attended the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Selection and Management Committee to request permission to test the use of the entomopathogenic fungus, *Beauveria bassiana*, as a method to protect the Trail Plants we are growing in the Enchanted Forest Sanctuary. As well as testing the fungus, we will test a method using a green mesh to camouflage giant airplants (Figure 1), hopefully breaking up the shape of the bromeliad and making it less apparent to the weevil. We will rescue 180 medium size giant airplants to do the test, 60 will be in a control group (they will not sprayed with the fungus or provided camouflage), 60 will be treated with the fungus, and 60 will be camouflaged. The Committee has granted permission for this research and we will begin the experiment in August 2017 and it will end in December 2019.

We have a new volunteer, Angie Howell, who started with us at the Enchanted Forest this summer. She has been a great help and I look forward to continue working with her. As summer turns into autumn, we will maintain the trails we have already made and will break new trails to create space for our Trail Plants. We will also make our regular counts and weekly monitoring of our giant airplants. David Humphrey, Editor of the Journal for the Sea Rocket Florida Native Plant Society and volunteer at the Enchanted Forest, has agreed to build the Trail Sticks for the Trail Plants we will be testing.

Donna Day and Ernie Winn, from T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve have reported that the plants in their Conservation Cages are doing well (Figure 2), especially in Cage 3, the one built by Noah Hosburgh and funded by the FCBS. There are 12 plants in the cage and 6 have very tall, healthy spikes. The seeds should be ready to be released in about 9 months. From our meeting at the 3rd Annual Florida Bromeliad Conservation Working Group on 5 April 2017, Lisa Bramlage, Naturalist at Lemon Bay Park, very near the Carlton Reserve, decided she wanted a Conservation Cage for Lemon Bay Park. Noah Hosburgh built the cage for her, it has been delivered to the Park, and Donna Day, Ernie Winn, and Karen Relish helped her set up the cage and get their first giant airplant inside (Figure 3).



Figure 1. Giant airplant Trail Plant with camouflage



Figure 2. Left

- A) Large giant airplants in the first cedar Conservation Cage at the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve;
- B) Donna Day and Ernie Winn standing in front of cedar cage 3, built by Noah Hosburgh; 6 of 12 plants have an inflorescence;



Photos taken by Karen Relish.

Figure 3. Below

- A) Lisa Bramlag opening the door to the new cedar Conservation Cage at Lemon Bay Park; and
- B) the first giant airplant put into the cage.

Photos taken by Karen Relish.



Please visit our Web site at: <http://www.savebromeliads.com> or like us on Facebook at [facebook.com/SaveBromeliads](https://www.facebook.com/SaveBromeliads).

And please, if you can, make donations to the Al Muzzell Weevil Fund, managed by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (all funds are used for the conservation project and donations are tax deductible).

You can make a donation at: FCBS.org



FCBS.org

You Are Visitor 450,361 (as of 8/12/2017)

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies (FCBS) is a 501(c)3, nonprofit organization that serves the bromeliad enthusiasts of Florida.

The FCBS has been helping save Florida's bromeliads since the Mexican bromeliad weevil (*Metamasius callizona*) first arrived in Florida in 1989.

The FCBS has provided funding for research, field expeditions, and supplies, as well as actively participated in research projects.

The FCBS has helped greatly in disseminating information about the Mexican bromeliad weevil and Florida's bromeliads.

The FCBS maintains the Al Muzzell Weevil Fund.

Donations made to this fund are used to pay for research and conservation efforts and allow us to continue our work to save Florida's bromeliads.

All donations are tax deductible.

**An Interview with Karen Andreas: The
Al Muzzell Memorial Weevil Fund,
16 June 2017,
can be seen at:
[http://www.savebromeliads.com/sfbcp-
updates](http://www.savebromeliads.com/sfbcp-updates)**



Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society Selects New Logo By Jay Thurrott

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society (FECBS) was formed in 1993 and one of the first orders of business after its first meeting was to hire a professional artist to develop several possible logos for the new society. The membership selected one of those draft logos and has used it in their newsletters and for publicity ever since. In recent years, however it became increasingly evident that this artwork that was done over 20 years ago no longer met the needs of the club. The original low resolution logo quickly becomes pixilated whenever it is enlarged above its original size and was only available as a black and white image.



Original FECBS Logo



Enlarged portion of FECBS Logo

Recently, the club contacted a commercial graphics company which specializes in custom logo and website design. This particular company had been used with good results by the Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society to develop a logo for that neighboring group. The company soon produced a series of draft high resolution color images for consideration and the FECBS members quickly narrowed that number of choices from 9 to just 4 possibilities. The membership then cast ballots to choose one logo from among those 4 images. One of those was a clear favorite among the members and with some follow-up “fine-tuning”, that image was selected. This new logo can be embroidered on clothes, blown-up for posters, or used in any other club activity and should serve the membership for the next 20 years!





2017 Rare Plant Auction

The Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies benefited from another wonderful Rare Plant Auction on Saturday night, August 5th as part of the Bromeliad Extravaganza held in Tampa. With over 110 items on the auction block, there was both live auction and silent auction opportunities. It was a wonderful and fun experience for those involved and the bidding was lively.

A big Thank You goes to everyone who contributed items to the auction:

Birdrock Tropicals - Pamela Koide-Hyatt
Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay
Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
Bromeliad Society of South Florida
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
Color Zone Tropicals - Grant Groves & Kelli Ahnen
Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society
Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society
Gainesville Bromeliad Society
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens
McCrary's Sunny Hill Nursery - Georgia Orser
Michael's Bromeliads - Michael & Donna Kiehl
Sarasota Bromeliad Society
Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society
Steve Littlefield Artist
Tropiflora - Dennis & Linda Cathcart
Valkaria Gardens - Clay Millare

The Bromeliad Society International (BSI) once again donated many bromeliads to the auction. They received these plants through a very generous donor and also solicited the pottery donations from Valkaria Gardens in Palm Bay. Both plants and pottery made for a wonderful addition to the auction and has significantly driven proceeds over the last two auctions (2015 & 2017).

Several plants and items were donated in memory of past members including, Helga Tarver and Dean Fairchild which was a wonderful way to honor these people we've lost this year.

Any successful event is operated by just a handful of volunteers and the 2017 auction staff included:

Ray Lemieux, Auctioneer
Charlie Birdsong, Auctioneer Assistant
Calandra Thurrott & Patty Gonzalez, Bid Recording
Sudi Hipsley, Betsy McCrary & Vicky Chirnside, Checkout & Finance
Alan Bennett, Larry & Susan Sousa & Francisco Cardoso, Runners/Walkers and Heavy Lifters



2017 Rare Plant Auction-continued

With all these wonderful bromeliads and items donated and with the assistance of our auction staff we collected just over **\$5,000.00**. Thank you so much to everyone involved! These funds will continue to support endeavors of the Florida Council, including our very popular Speakers Reimbursement Program, which brought incredible speakers to our Tampa Extravaganza!

This years auction represents our second most successful auction in Florida Council 'recorded' history:

2007 Broward Auction collected \$6,253.75

2017 Tampa Auction collected \$5170.00

2015 South Florida Auction collected \$5,159.57

Again, Thanks to Everyone Involved,
Jay Thurrott & Rick Ryals
Rare Plant Auction Co-Chairs

Photos by Marilyn Byram





2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 9:00 AM—4:00 PM
August 19, 20, 2017
Annual Fall Plant Sale
Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society
Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Drive, Sanford, FL 32773 (352) 504-6162
- 9:00 AM—2:00 PM
August 26, 2017
Bromeliad Bash
USF BOTANICAL GARDENS
12210 USF Pine Drive, Tampa, FL 33612 (813) 974-2329
- Friday & Sat 8 AM-5PM
Sunday 10AM-3PM
October 6,7,8, 2017
Tropiflora Annual Fall Sale
3530 Tallevast Road, Sarasota, FL 34243
www.tropiflora.com/events.cfm
- Sat. 10 AM - 4 PM
Sun. 10 AM - 3 PM
October 14, 15, 2017
Fall Plant Festival
USF BOTANICAL GARDENS
12210 USF Pine Drive
Tampa, FL 33612 (813) 974-2329
- October 17, 2017
BSSF Annual Bromeliad Auction
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, FL 33156
Phone: 305-667-1651
- October 20-22, 2017
Southwest Guild Bromeliad Show and Cryptanthus Show
Crown Plaza Addison, Dallas, Texas
Registration \$85.00; Banquet & Rare Plant Auction Saturday night
<http://www.bsi.org/new/conference-corner/> Crown Plaza Addison, Dallas, Tx.
- October 28, 2017
FLORIDA COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES MEETING
Host: BSSF, Miami, FL
- November 3—4, 2017
Fall Plant Sale
Mead Botanical Gardens 1500 S. Denning Dr., Winter Park, FL 32789
BSCF will have a booth at the event for Plant sales.
- Sat. 9 AM - 4 PM
Sun. 10 AM - 3 PM
December 2, 3, 2017
Show and Sale
Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society
ARABA SHRINE TEMPLE
2010 Hanson Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901
- January 2018
Judges School—Florida
If you are interested in becoming a BSI Certified Judge by attending a Judges School in 2018, please request an application from Betty Ann Prevatt (bprevattpcc@aol.com) or Calandra Thurrott (calandra.thurrott@att.net)
- May 29—June 3, 2018
BSI World Conference
San Diego, California