

THE FLORIDA EAST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

January 2024 Newsletter

1:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Colony in the Wood, 4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd.
Port Orange, FL

January 14th Meeting

Happy New Year! We had a great Holiday Party at Myrna Moore's home in December. Good company, good food, good fun, and a gift exchange.

Well, January marks the start of the Society's 31st year, and at this meeting we will be selecting the new officers for 2024. Calandra will be presenting the list of proposed officers, and all members present will get a chance to vote. Bill has a good program lined up. Great refreshments, door prizes, and the raffle. Hope to see everyone there.

This month's speaker will be Teresa Watkins, a well-known Florida-friendly landscape designer, horticulturist, garden author, and host of a weekly syndicated radio program "Best Lawns and Gardens" on 24 Florida stations, iHeart, iTunes and Amazon. She will be giving us ideas on designing containers with bromeliads.

--- Jack

Membership renewals

Don't forget to renew your membership. An individual membership is still a bargain at \$15 and a family membership is \$20. See Eve Krauth at the meeting to renew or mail a check payable to FECBS to Eve Krauth, 148 Grebe Ct., Daytona Beach, FL 32119.

What is our winter going to be like?

According to the Old Farmer's Almanac, this winter will be warmer and rainier than usual with a cold spell in mid-February. Well, a cold spell came early this weekend but not cold enough to cause any damage. It was 36° in Palm Coast Saturday and Sunday mornings! It might be a good time to check your supply of frost cloth and try to remember what bromeliads were affected by last year's frost and freezing temperatures. It looks like January will be warmer than usual, so there is plenty of time to prepare. Watch the forecast regularly as these cold fronts creep up on us.

There are several lists of cold-sensitive bromeliads on the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies website (fcb.org): "Cold Sensitivity of Some Bromeliads" by Tom Wolfe & Eileen Kahl and "Cold Sensitivity of Bromeliads" by Dr. Dale Jenkins. The Rainforest Garden also has lists: "The 5 Best Cold Hardy Bromeliads" and "The Big List of Freeze Tolerant Bromeliads". Island Breeze Tropicals has a good video on YouTube, Cold Hardy Bromeliads?? Check out these resources.

Calandra wins Award of Merit



In December, Calandra Thurrott entered the Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society Show and Sale at the Edison/Ford Winter Estates and entered the Judges Challenge, a separate division just for the Judges of the show. She won the Award of Merit with her beautiful bromeliad pillow. Congratulations, Calandra. You are very talented!!!

Holidays at Leu Gardens

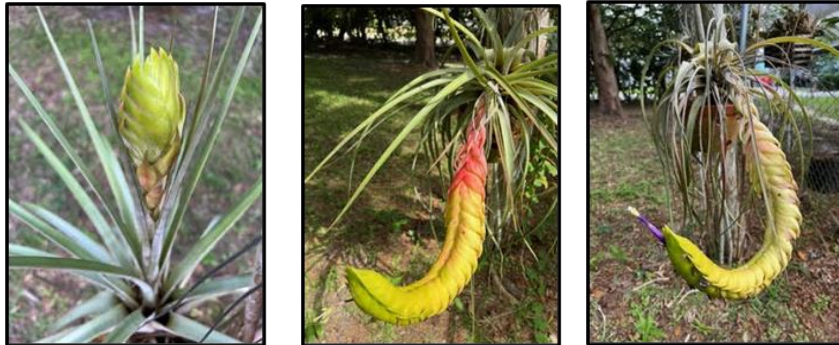
Bill and Tree Hazard visited Leu Gardens in Orlando to see the live plant displays throughout the gardens featuring poinsettias, amaryllis, bromeliads, orchids, annuals, and handcrafted horticulture designs. The holiday decorations continue until January 7.



***Tillandsia jalisco monticola* – an unusual air plant**

Former club member Bryan Manion sent these photos of *Tillandsia jalisco monticola* which he has grown for more than five (5) years. He is excited that it started blooming in June and is still flowering five (5) months later. And it has at least one pup!!!

This plant is only found in nature in Jalisco, Mexico. According to the Internet, a single plant can grow up to nearly three (3) feet in diameter and can produce up to four (4) branches. The color of the inflorescence can last for a year or more. Thanks, Bryan, for sharing.



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



Iris Graim holds baskets made from recycled rubber tires which she planted with bromeliads.



Aechmea maculata

(Photo: Calandra Thurrott)



Vriesea

(Photo: Marie Fabozzi)



Aechmea weilbachii forma
leodiensis

(Photo: Jane Villa-Lobos)

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 Jane at saravillalobos387@gmail.com.

Birthdays for January



Greetings to these members: Virginia Dornbach, Chuck Mamele, Jacquie Mamele, and Cricket Petrovich.

Future Events

February 3-4

GardenFest

Riverside Park

3250 Riverside Park Dr.

Vero Beach

Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-4

February 24

Seminole County Gardening Expo

Seminole County Extension Service

250 W. County Home Rd.

Sanford

9-3

Co-Presidents - Jack Dunlop 386-317-0054

Chuck Mamele 386-402-4830

Vice President - Bill Hazard 386-882-3850

Secretary - Ruth Gessner 386-767-3499

Treasurer - Eve Krauth 386-871-1041

