

The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

April, 2021

Tour at EFG!

Co-Presidents – Jack Dunlop and Chuck Mamale
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Vice President – Bill Hazard 386/882-3850
Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499
Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041

April meeting

Arrangements have been made with EFG Orchids, 4265 Marsh Rd., DeLand to have our April 11 meeting there at 1:30 PM. We will have a tour of the greenhouse and an opportunity to purchase plants. They will be celebrating their 10 years in retail and some plants will be on sale. My thought is that everyone bring their own lunch and drinks if they so choose. We will have bottled water available.

There is an outside covered area with four picnic tables where we will have our meeting with raffles and door prizes. Members may want to bring folding chairs.

---Jack Dunlop

Monthly Feature:

***Canistropsis*:** This genus is easily confused with *Nidularium*. However, *Nidularium* petals are tightly fused into an upright tube and *Canistropsis* are spreading and unfused. Also they are stoloniferous whereas *Nidularium* are not, and make excellent groundcovers.

These plants are shade-loving, easy to grow, multiply readily, and cold hardy. They are

given the same care as *Vriesea* and *Guzmania*.



Canistropsis billbergioides Photo by Dorothy Berg

This is the most common species. Others have pink or orange flowers.

Canistrum: This is a small genus native to the Atlantic coastal forests of se Brazil. Most grow on rocks or in trees, but they can be grown in soil. Good for low light situations. Their flower spikes are similar to *Canistropsis* and *Nidularium*.

The one below from Calandra Thurott, has a blood-orange flower spike with white petals in the center when in bloom. It grows best in very light shade and is reasonably hardy.



Canistrum triangular

Cryptanthus: These are known as ‘Earth Stars’ because of their shape and are true terrestrials. They only need filtered light and are susceptible to sunburn. They come in a variety of colors, patterns and forms. Their white flowers bloom from the center of the plant or from between leaves. All are small plants and are popular in dish gardens.

Cryptanthus do not have water tanks so they depend on moisture from the potting medium as well as from watering the leaves. Use a potting soil that drains well but does not stay soggy wet. Do not under-pot these. The pot should be wider than it is deep, as the roots prefer to spread out rather than go downwards. Use a slow release fertilizer such as Nutricote in the soil mix when potting.

Frosts and winds are damaging as these plants are found on the forest floor. Pups will come from the base of the mother plant as well as from between the leaves. You may need to peel off the very small lower leaves so it will plant easier. Sometimes you need to anchor it with a staple until the roots develop or stretch a rubber band over the pot and plant to keep it secure.



Calandra Thurrott's *Cryptanthus* 'Thriller'



From Jane Howells' collection



Judith Davies' *Cryptanthus fosterianus* in bright light

Here is one named after Calandra Thurrott!!!

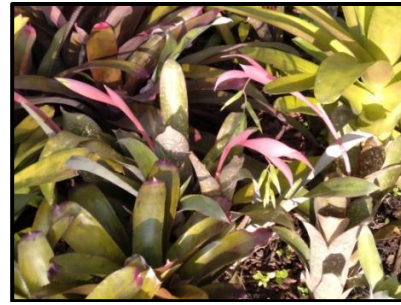


Cryptanthus 'Calandra'

photo by Steve Hoppin



Ray & Marsha Tucholski's *Cryptanthus*



Two *Aechmea recurvata* hybrids:



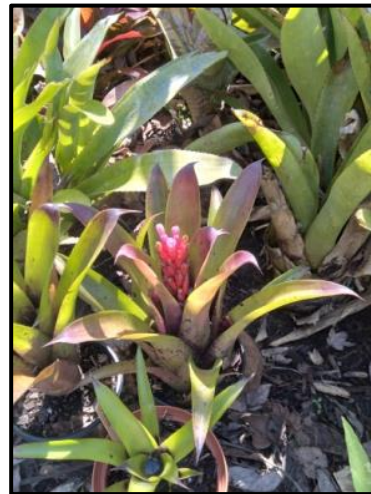
Aechmea 'Covata'
(*comata* x *recurvata*)

Next month:

Dyckia and *Guzmania* will be featured next month. **Please** send your photos of these by the end of the month. Thanks!!

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

From Marinus Grootenboer's garden:



Aechmea 'Roman 'Candle''
(*caudata* x *recurvata* v. *benrathii*)



Billbergias



Tillandsia xerographica in Calandra's garden

From Jane Villa-Lobos' garden



Tillandsia neglecta

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 to Jane at saravillalobos387@gmail.com or mail to Jane Villa-Lobos, 29 Clearview Ct. North, Palm Coast, FL 32137.

Videos to Watch:

The Internet is a wealth of information and in this section each month I will include

some videos I find interesting. Send me yours!

Summer Rayne Oakes - Plant One on Me--

Topics such as how to repot bromeliads, bromeliad and Tillandsia tips, and videos on many specific species.

Birthdays for April:

Greetings to these members:

Irene Aldrich	Doreen DeBiasio
Kathy Grabow	Jayne Molnar
Eretta Morris	Hedy Quirk
Roberta Sappington	Vince Schrider
Rose Vincel	

Looking ahead:

April 10 Master Gardener's Plant Faire

#2. Volusia County Agricultural Center, 3100 E. New York Ave. (SR 44), Deland. 8:00–noon. Free. Must register on EventBrite for a ticketed time. Limit: 30 guests per hour. Cash & check only. (386) 822-5778.

April 10 - 11. EFG 10 Year Retail

Anniversary. 10-5. DeLand. Sales, raffles, packaged snacks, beverages.

April 17 7th Annual SPRING Festival and Plant Sale

presented by The Garden Club at Palm Coast at Palm Coast Arts Foundation, 1500 Central Ave, Palm Coast Town Center. 9-4. Club plant sale, garden-related vendors, arts & crafts, food trucks, children's activities. www.gardenclubatpalmcoast.org

April 17-18 Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Sale,

Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Dr., Lake Mary. 9-4. Bromeliads, orchids, aroids, gingers, other tropical plants, handmade slat baskets. FREE.

2022

June 8-12, 2022

24th World Bromeliad Conference

Note: The 2021 conference has been re-scheduled to 2022!!!

Hyatt Regency Sarasota

Sarasota, FL Watch future newsletters for more details! www.bsi.org

