

THE FLORIDA EAST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

May 2026 Newsletter

1:30 p.m.

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

May 10th

This month's meeting will be held on Sunday, May 10th at 1:30 at the clubhouse at Colony in the Wood, 4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange.

The speaker will be Jason Mellica. He will be showing us some of his 2026 hybrids. Jason received his Bachelor of Science in Botany from the University of Florida and did an internship at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens where he developed an interest in bromeliads. He will be bringing many of his hybrids and other plants for sale.

There will be a bromeliad raffle, show and tell, door prizes and delicious refreshments.

---Pam

Bromeliad Society International World Bromeliad Conference 2026

---Calandra Thurrott

The WBC in Costa Mesa, California included a Bromeliad Judges School with 12 students led by Dr. Terrie Bert of Florida, Pam Koide-Hyatt and Robert Kopfstein each of California.

We were fortunate enough to judge the Show with our FECBS member BSI President Rick Ryals as the Judges Chair.



Among the gorgeous plants were *Vriesea* 'Pink Dream' awarded the Sponsored Award by FECBS, Best *Vriesea* in memory of Jay Thurrott. This was entered by Scott Sandel of San Diego Bromeliad Society.

In addition to the show and the sale vendors, there were 5 guest speakers from around the world.

Since 2000 the BSI has awarded the **Wally Berg Award of Excellence** to deserving members of BSI who exemplify extraordinary achievements in the appreciation, culture and knowledge of bromeliads. In 2022, Jay Thurrott of FECBS was awarded posthumously. At this year's conference, Chester Skotak received the Award.



Lunch at Bird Rock Tropicals in Encinitas, a nursery created by Pam Koide-Hyatt



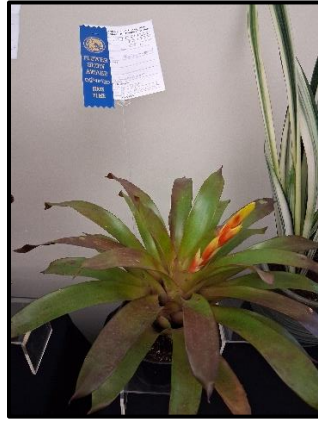
Rainforest Flora was created by Jerry Robinson & late husband Paul Isley III with a beautiful retail showroom of rock walls & waterfalls

Marinus Grootenboer's Bromeliads Win at Several Flower Shows

Marinus Grootenboer loves participating in flower shows! He recently entered two Florida Federation of Garden Club's Flower Shows. The first one was at the Florida Federation of Garden Club's State Convention April 14-17 in Kissimmee, and the second one was the April 24-25 St. Augustine Garden Club's Flower Show. He entered bromeliads and other flowering plants at both shows and all were winners. In St. Augustine he entered *Aechmea* "Bert", *Neoregelia* 'Shamrock', *Neoregelia* 'Hannibal Lector', *Tillandsia bartramii*, *Vriesea* 'Pink Magic', and *Vriesea* 'Flaming Sword'.

Neoregelia 'Shamrock' and *Tillandsia bartramii* won the top Grower's Choice Award for Horticulture Excellence. CONGRATULATIONS MARINUS!!!



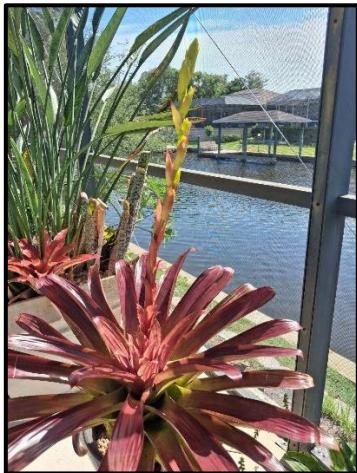


Looking for Some Free Plants?

Call Susan Rowley if interested or want more information. 386-316-0085. Address is: 1028 Shockney Drive, Ormond Beach, FL 32 174.

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

From Judith Davies' lanai. Photos by Keith McCabe



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.



Greetings to these members: Ruth Gessner, Margaret Grootenboer, Cheryl Miranda, Janet Roberts, Glenn Spitzer and Mally Trzeciak.

Future Events

May 8-9

**Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
Show and Sale**

Fashion Square Mall
3463 E. Colonial Dr.
Orlando, FL
11- 8

May 23-24

**Bromeliad Society of South Florida
Stars, Stripes, & Spikes, a Bromeliad
Celebration-Show and Sale**

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
10901 Old Cutler Road
Memorial Day Weekend

May 9-10

Mother's Day Orchid Show & Sale

Volusia County Fairgrounds
3150 E. New York Ave.
DeLand, FL
Admission: \$5 cash
9-4

President – Pam Reisen 937- 426-4556

Vice President - Bill Hazard 386-882-3850

Secretary - Ruth Gessner 386-767-3499

Treasurer - Eve Krauth 386-871-1041

Newsletter Editor - Jane Villa-Lobos 386-446-0341

Hospitality – Annette Cross 561-506-4918

Beverages - Terri Malia 386-307-4331

Sunshine - Judith Davies 386-864-7360

