

# The Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

July, 2021

## Meeting at Colony in the Wood

4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd., Port Orange

**Co-Presidents – Jack Dunlop and Chuck Mamale**

**386/317-0054      386/402-4830**

**Vice President – Bill Hazard 386/882-3850**

**Secretary – Ruth Gessner 386/767-3499**

**Treasurer – Eve Krauth 386/871-1041**

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### **July meeting**

The July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held at the clubhouse in Colony in the Wood. It is so nice to be back here!

The speaker will be Ray Lemieux, president of the Sarasota Bromeliad Society. He will show us how to separate and propagate various types of bromeliads and will have a few plants for sale. There will also be a show & tell, door prizes and raffle. Don't forget the people whose birthdays are this month bring food, help set-up and clean up. Others are welcome to bring food if they wish.

---Jack Dunlop

### **Monthly Feature: *Neoregelia***

This genus has the largest number of species (>200) and over 3,500 registered hybrids. Most are native to southeastern Brazil with a small group in the upper Amazon Basin. They are tank-type epiphyte rosettes or terrestrials and are known for their showy and diverse foliage colors and patterns. These are the most hybridized bromeliads. The leaves can be spotted,

mottled, banded, variegated and even plaid! They range in size from miniature (about 1" tall) to landscape monsters over 40" wide. The flowers barely rise above the water in the central cup. Plants thrive in indirect light or moderate shade although many can take full sun, like *N. compacta*, *macwilliamsii*, *marmorata*, *olens*, *cruenta*, 'Bossa Nova', 'Fireball', 'Hannibal Lector', 'Jeffrey Block', 'Royal Burgundy' and 'Sheba' to name a few.

They are somewhat cold hardy, but prefer 55° F or higher. Most people say do not fertilize them as too much nitrogen will make them lose their color. However, commercial bromeliad growers say "if you feed them well, they will grow well". If you want to fertilize them, the key is to use a slow release fertilizer and apply it to the potting mix not into the cup.

If you don't use these wonderful plants in your landscape, you can grow them in pots using any good soil mix. Here's a tip on when to remove the offsets. If you haven't removed the offsets by October wait until spring as pups grow to maturity faster.

Here are some photos from Judith Davies:



*Neo. mexicana*



A mound of *Neo. compacta*

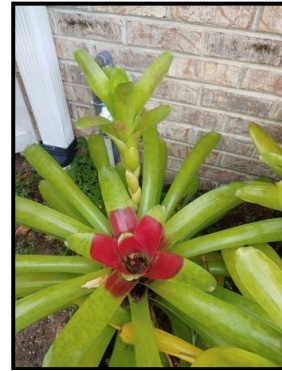
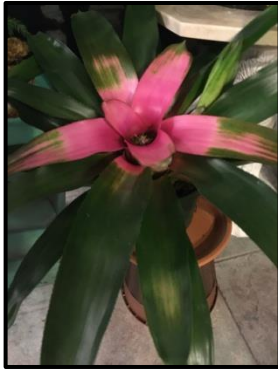
Some of Terry Kahn's collection:



Notice the Cuban tree frog in the cup.



**Charlotte Mueller's Neoregelias**



*N. macwilliamsii*



*N. 'Inferno'*



*N. charcarodon 'Rainbow'*



*N. 'Painted Delight'*

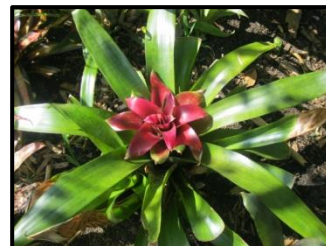
**Jack Dunlop's bromeliads and koi**



**Jane Villa-Lobos' specimens**



*N. marmorata*



*Nidularium rutilans* (J. Villa-Lobos)

**Next month:**

*Nidularium* and *Orthophytum* will be featured next month. **Please send me your photos by the end of the month. Thanks!!**

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



*Aechmea* 'Blue Tango' (B. Hazard)



Ornamental pineapple - raffle plant (R. Byard)

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!

**Seabreeze Nurseries - *Neoregelia* bromeliads explained - care, sun tolerance, growth habit.**

#### **Birthdays for July:**

*Greetings to these members:*

Linda Collins	Mary DeLisle
Charlotte Mueller	Nancy Rogers
Jane Villa-Lobos	Annette Wilson
Linda Sheets	Jennifer Witherspoon
Diane Zdunowski	

#### **Looking ahead:**

**August 14-15**

**Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society Fall Sale**

Sanford Garden Club, 200 Fairmont Dr., Lake Mary. 9AM - 4 PM.

**October 9-10.**

**USF Botanical Gardens Fall Plant Sale**

University of South Florida, Tampa.  
(Tentative)

**November 13-14**

**Mount Dora Plant & Garden Fair**

Donnelly Park, Mount Dora  
Sat. 9AM -5PM; Sun. 9AM - 4PM

**2022**

**June 8-12, 2022**

**24<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.bsi.org)

