

# THE FLORIDA EAST COAST BROMELIAD SOCIETY

## July 2025 Newsletter

**Meeting Location: Colony in the Wood, 4000 S. Clyde Morris Blvd.  
Port Orange, FL  
Time: 1:30 p.m.**

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### July 13th Meeting

I hope everyone had a safe July Fourth! This month Chip Jones will present “Bromeliad Breeding from Insights Learned at the World Bromeliad Conference”.

As usual there will be a raffle, show & tell, door prizes and refreshments. Only four members have birthdays this month, so if you can, please bring something for the refreshment table. Thank you.

A special thanks to Wayne Petrovich for hosting our June meeting!

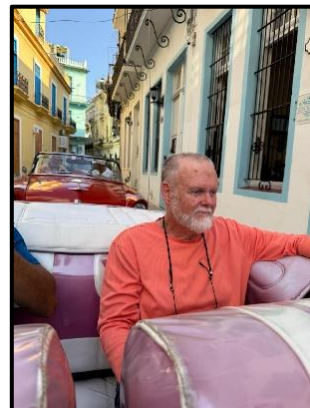
--- Jack

### Travels in Cuba

Owner of Tropiflora Nursery Dennis Cathcart, Jack Dunlop, his son John Dunlop, owner of Central Florida Ferns, Ray Roberts and myself took a 12 day “Herper” trip to Havana and Western Cuba. We toured with Dr. Luis M. Diaz, herpetologist at the Cuban National Museum of Natural History and Havana stained glass studio owner.

We met gifted and friendly people, many of whom are self-taught, reading and writing English. As guests, we got an on-the-spot look at the troubled economy and infrastructure. At the same time, there were unspoiled, unparalleled views of the Caribbean and Sierra del Rosario, both during the day and in the dark of night.

Of course, there were trademark cars from the 50’s. --Calandra



**Have you ever seen this before?**



My neighbor asked me what was going on with her *Aechmea blanchettiana* in her side yard. I was amazed to see there were five (5) separate flower stalks coming from the center of the bromeliad. All of mine in the past have just had a single central flower stalk. Not knowing the answer, I posted a photo on the Central Florida Bromeliad Society FB page and received comments, like “it is a fluke”, “I have never seen that before”, etc.

Then Mike MacMahon (past president of the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida) responded, “Possibly the bloom spike was damaged as it was getting started & side shoots took off. I would expect these spikes are joined deep down & probably will not rise up the several feet typical of the species. A couple of months ago a rat ate the bloom spikes of some *T. streptocarpa*. One of them sent up a lateral bloom spike from the base of the chewed off spike. It was much smaller than typical, but a bloom nonetheless. Broms should inspire all of us to never give up. They don't.”

It is nice to have social media sites to help answer many questions, so I encourage you to look at the many bromeliad Facebook pages on the Internet.

I'll continue to watch this unusual phenomenon and take more photos as the spike grows and the flowers open. – Jane Villa-Lobos

### Green Heritage Nursery, Bunnell



After hearing last month about the new nursery, Green Heritage Nursery, in Bunnell and all their beautiful bromeliads and mounted bromeliad displays, Donna Valerio took a drive and saw for herself! She loved the selection of plants and could not resist purchasing this beautiful *Neoregelia* ‘Cotton Candy’. She was also delighted to have been given a free Tillandsia. You just might want to take a trip to Flagler County and see for yourself!!

### Door prizes

Have you been lucky to get some of the beautiful door prizes given to our attendees at our monthly meetings or at any other event? If so, please send photos of the plants when they bloom.

Terry Kahn, a longtime member, was given a *Guzmania* when she became a member, and she sent this photo of what it looks like now. Just beautiful!!!



looks like now.

### We love to see pictures of

Some *Vriesea* and

### bromeliads in our members' gardens

*Guzmania* in Sherrie Thompson's garden



Other members' beauties



*Aechmea fasciata*



*Aechmea nudicaulis*

(Jane Villa-Lobos)



*Aechmea rubens*

(Judith Davies)



*Tillandsia*

(Marinus Grootenboer)



*Tillandsia*

(Calandra thinks it is *Tillandsia* 'Domingo's Beauty')

(Terry Kahn)



*Tillandsia*

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](mailto:saravillalobos387@gmail.com).



**Birthdays for July**

Greetings to these members: Mary DeLisle, Linda Sheets, Jane Villa-Lobos, and Annette Wilson.

**Future Events**

**August 17-18**

**Annual Fall Plant Sale**

Seminole Bromeliad &  
Tropical Plant Society  
Garden Club of Sanford  
200 Fairmont Dr.  
Sanford, FL  
9-4

**September 26-27**

**2025 Bromeliad Extravaganza**

Ramada Gateway  
7470 W. Iro Bronson Memorial Highway 192  
Kissimmee, FL  
Book your room by August 26 for special room rate  
[BromeliadX.com](http://BromeliadX.com)

*President - Jack Dunlop 386-317-0054*

*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 - Becky Gabbard 386-492-3933*

*Beverages - Terri Malia 386-307-4331*

*Sunshine - Jane Villa-Lobos 386-446-0341*

