DRAFT MINUTES

FLORID COUNCIL OF BROMELIAD SOCIETIES MEETING

Saturday, October 17, 2026 via ZOOM

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm by President Jack Dunlop

Representatives attending:

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida: Mike Saunders

Bromeliad Society of South Florida: Maureen Adelman

Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches: Jim Jackson, Tom Ramiccio

Caloosahatchee Bromeliad Society: Vicki Chirnside, Julie Stein

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society: Jack Dunlop

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society: Jean Homan

Sarasota Bromeliad Society: Marian Kennell, David Dunholm

Guest: Rick Ryals, BSI President

Unable to attend: Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society of Tampa, Gainesville Bromeliad Society, Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

REPORTS AND UPDATES

Secretary: Both the June (Maureen Adelman) and September (Jim Jackson) minutes were approved with minor changes.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Betsy McCrory was not present but has paid the initial deposit of $1,000 to Miccosukee Gaming and Resort for the 2027 Extravaganza by FCBS credit card. Maureen Adelman mentioned the next payments are due November 19 ($3000.00) and March 15, 2027 ($2435.00).

Webmaster: Michael Andreas - Report tabled.

Judging: Vicki Chirnside had nothing to report.

Archives: Steven Provost was not present, report tabled.

OLD BUSINESS

FCBS Roster: Betsy McCrory was not present, report tabled. Jim Jackson to follow up and offer assistance.

FCBS Newsletter: Still no editor. Terrie Bert still considering.

Weevil: Tom Ramiccio showed us damaged T. utriculata from a Boy Scout camp in west Vero Beach. In some locations there are no mature utriculata left due to weevil damage. He stated the east coast of Florida has partial destruction while the west coast has almost total destruction. He suggests we concentrate on conservation vs. the weevil and noted that the decline in the utriculate population is due more to habitat destruction than the weevil. Tom will update our website accordingly and noted that Thailand is now growing T. utriculata and other threatened species.

Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society of Tampa: Status unchanged. Jack Dunlop to call Tom Wolfe for an update.

2027 Extravaganza: Maureen Adelman, co-chair with Alex Bello, gave an update. The contract with Mikkosukee has been signed and the first deposit paid. The three speakers have been confirmed: Pedro Nahoum, Dylan Zoeller, and Jose Manzanares. We pay for airfare, rooms and registration. The 3 rooms have been comped by Miccosukee. The flyers and schedule of events should be done within the next 2 weeks. We have confirmed a sponsor for the event: Bullis Bromeliads, a wholesaler in the Redland area. We have requested to use the Bromeliad X website for registration and hope to open up registration by January 27. We have requested who to send graphics and marketing material to for the website and the Facebook page. The materials should be sent to Greg Kolojeski and Jim Jackson. Soon we should inventory and assign tables.

Jack Dunlop believes we should vote on, sign and formally adopt an agreement with Bromeliad Society of South Florida, codifying the informal agreement and concessions. We can do this at our next zoom meeting when Alex Bello can be present.

Once all room rental payments have been made, all other expenses should be funded through registration fees. After some discussion, it was agreed the next zoom meeting for the Extravaganza will be held via zoom on November 14, at 1 pm. Central Florida and Gainesville will not be able to attend.

NEW BUSINESS

BSI: Rick Ryals reports BSI hosted a luncheon for Dennis and Linda Cathcart, whose Tropiflora nursery is set to close October 31. He suggested everyone including FCBS, the societies and individuals send the Cathcarts a card in appreciation of their many years of involvement in the bromeliad world. Tropiflora has 3 employees with over 30 years of service. Rick also noted the next world conference has been scheduled for May 4-7 in Bangkok. There will be a preconference trip to Singapore and a post conference trip to Viet Nam. Tom Ramiccio is now Vice President and Treasurer due to the death of the previous officer.

MEMBER SOCIETIES NEWS, SPEAKERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sarasota Bromeliad Society

- June – David Denholm, Summary of the World Bromeliad Conference
- July – Ray Lemieux, Growing Bromeliads from Seedlings, encholirium
- August – Terrie Bert, Growing Conditions of Varieties of Bromeliads
- September - Ken Stokes, Many Things Bromeliad
- October – To be Determined

Florida East Coast Bromeliad Society

- May – Jason Mellica
- June- Pam Marion and John Boardman, Bromeliad nomenclature made simple and tools for bromeliad care
- July – Bromeliad Bingo
- August – Ray Lemieux, To Stab or not to Stab
- September – Ken Stokes, Tips to being a Bromeliad Collector
- October – Stephanie LaRusso, Mindful Garden Design, Less Weeding and More Wine
- November – Terrie Bert
- December – Holiday Party at Myrna Moore's home
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Bromeliad Society of the Palm Beaches

- June -Jim Jackson, Overview of World Bromeliad Conference 2026
- July – Stephanie LaRusso, Behind the Bromeliads: People, Places ad Taxonomy
- August – Andy Sikkenen
- September Steve Byran, Bromeliads 101
- October – Dave Johnston
- November – Pam Koide Hyatt
- December - Holiday Party

Gainesville Bromeliad Society

- May – Kenneth Stokes, Plant Collecting Considerations
- June – Steve Beaudoin, Hohenbergias
- July – Greg Kolojeski, Bromeliad Flowering Characteristics
- August – David Johnston, Orthophytums, Sincoreas and Hybrids Thereof
- September – Terrie Bert, How to be a Bromeliad Collector
- October – GBS Plant Sale and 10/25 field trip to Cedar Lake Woods & Gardens (Williston)
- November - Officer elections and holiday meeting
- December – No meeting

Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

- July – Dave Johnton, Orthophytums, Sincoreas and hybrids thereof
- August – Annual Fall Plant Sale, Aug. 15-16, 9-4

- September – Greg Kolojeski, Blooming Bromeliads & members' market
- October – Marty Baxley, Fact or Fiction 2.0 (rescheduled to 1/17/27)
- November – Dr. Terrie Bert, My Favorite Bromeliads that Survived the Hurricane
- December – Holiday Party

Caloosahatchie Bromeliad Society

- July – Alex Bello
- August – Andy Siekkinen
- September – Dave Johnston
- October – Member garden tour
- November- Pam Koide Hyatt
- December – Holiday party

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

- June - Stephanie LaRusso, Behind the Bromeliads: People, Places & Terminology
- July – Butterflies and Bromeliads, Trials and Tribulations of Broms in a Butterfly house
- August – Brian Dey, Terrifying Terrestrials? No Terrific!
- September – Dr. Terrie Bert, What it takes to be a True Bromeliad Collector
- October – Rick Ryals (with Members Market), Highlights of the 2026 World Conference and preview of 2028 WBC in Thailand

Florida West Coast Bromeliad Society

- August – Member roundtable where we share plant info with each other
- September – Mike McMahon, Vrieseas, What's to be Afraid of
- October – Dr. Terrie Bert, What is a Bromeliad Collector

Bromeliad Society of South Florida

- June – Dr. Terrie Bert, How to be a Collector
- July - Bromeliad Bingo
- August, Andy Sikkenen
- September, Alex Bello, Vrieseas
- October, Annual Auction

A motion to adjourn was made by Vicki Chirnside and seconded by Marian Kennell. The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Adelman, FCBS Secretary