



orlandiana

Newsletter of the
Bromeliad Society of Central Florida
Volume no. 52, Issue no. 7

Next meeting: July 16, 2025

Where: Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Avenue, Orlando, FL 32803

6:30 –7:00 is time for displaying and purchasing plants

Program officially begins at 7:00 pm

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Visit the Bromeliad Society of Central Florida Website at:
www.bromeliadsorlando.com

You will find an activities page that lists our speakers for upcoming meetings, downloadable copies of newsletters, plant photos, a map to Leu Gardens, and more! This is a great place for the public to find out about our Society or send us a message. Check it out!

President's Message

What do you do during the heat of the Summer? I have been working in the garden very early and at sunset. It reminds me of my Colorado days during the Winter. It was a time of planning, shopping in catalogs, and checking notes throughout the season. One of the tasks I tackled was to document when each species/cultivar bloomed. I have started this at my Florida garden also. I grow most of my bromeliads in the garden, ground and in the trees, except for a few rare ones that I am finally setting up a shade cloth area for them.

In my Colorado garden, it was full on temperate plants that all have their week of glory. Annuals were the only plants that would have a longer bloom period. This allowed for the same section of the garden to have different color schemes throughout the growing season. I want to attempt this in my garden here, such as a selection of red, white, and blue blooms during national holiday times in my front yard near the street area. Or, my orange and blue section that would bloom during football season. I plant my bromeliads with other native plants and long blooming tropicals,. When the bromeliads bloom, it gives an extra accent to the planted area. Lately, if I have an area which is too dense of straight bromeliads, I allow Florida native wildflowers to grow between them.

Neoregelias are a certain color option. I have found that that can be very variable with seasonal change and sun/shade situations. I have 3 'Candy apples' in my front garden, mother and pup, and a pup off the pup. All 3 of them are different, even though they came from the same mother plant bought 3 years ago. Colorful Neoregelias are an excellent foreground for green foliage bromeliads, like Aechmeas. When the Aechmeas (or others) bloom, it accents the color in that area.

I am desperately trying to catch up with my cataloging the species/cultivars and hybrids of my bromeliads. Steve suggested the "Plant Album" app. This allows you to catalogue the plants, make notes, and add pictures. Are there any others that are in use by our members?

Stay cool!
Dan

June 2025 Minutes

BROMELIAD SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.

Draft Meeting Minutes: June 18, 2025

Will be approved with potential corrections at the January 15, 2025 meeting.

Will be approved with potential corrections at the July 16, 2025 meeting
Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Program: Vice President Bonnie Friedrich introduced speaker Alex Bello who gave a talk on Bromeliads from Peru.

Announcements: President Dan Sawyer announced that since the October meeting cannot be held at Leu Gardens, efforts are being made to find a new location.

Bonnie Friedrich announced that plastic plant sleeves are available for purchase.

Dan Sawyer announced a meeting break at 7:30 pm to be resumed at 7:50pm.

Business Meeting was called to order at 7:50 pm.

Minutes: The draft minutes of the May 21, 2025 meeting were published in the June 2025 Orlandiana. **A motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Joyce Gibault and seconded by Liesl Haas. The motion passed unanimously.**

Membership Secretary: Pam Marion introduced new members and guests:

Richard Lee and Kathleen Lee from Austin, Texas were guests of John Boardman.

Trudy Boardman from Fredericksburg, Texas was also a guest of John's.

Nelson Blackmore from Geneva, Florida renewed his membership.

Treasurer's report: Joyce Gibault reported that the organization is financially sound. Income and expenses were presented.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Greg Kolojeski discussed the upcoming Bromeliad Extravaganza noting that all three speakers are lined up as well as fourteen vendors to date. He regularly posts updates to the website BromeliadX.com.

Show & Tell: Mike McMahon brought the species plant *Vriesea incurvata* and John Boardman brought a *Tillandsia x smalliana* (variegated), a natural hybrid native to Florida. They described their plants and took multiple questions from the audience.

The Plant of the Month showcased any blooming bromeliads from members' collections. Several people spoke on the plants they brought in.

Door Prize/Raffle giveaways: Dan Sawyer announced the order of seating rows to select door prizes.

Dan then drew and announced raffle ticket numbers.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Norton

Recording Secretary

Bromeliad Society Central Florida

Date Approved

Guest Speaker

Raymond Lemieux

An expert on terrestrial bromeliads and succulent plants. He has traveled to Mexico, Venezuela, Madagascar and Singapore to acquire plants for his extensive collection. He has been active in the Sarasota Bromeliad Society as well as a member of the Central Florida Cactus & Succulent Society, Bromeliad Society International, and the Cactus & Succulent Society of America. His topic will be terrestrial bromeliads.

Upcoming Speakers

August: Marty Baxley

September: David Johnston

October: ?



Upcoming Events

2025 Bromeliad Extravaganza

September 26th to 27th, 2025

Kissimmee, Florida (near Disney)

Conference Registration Fee: \$125

(Online Registration or Mail-In)

Sponsored by the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies and hosted by the Seminole Bromeliad & Tropical Plant Society, this will be Florida's biggest Bromeliad event of the year!

The **Bromeliad Extravaganza** will include a Friday night dinner (BBQ buffet), three Saturday afternoon seminars (including Leonardo Versieux from Brazil), a Saturday night banquet (Italian buffet) with a rare plant auction, and last (but not least), the biggest Bromeliad sale of the year in Florida. The Bromeliad sale (an area of almost 6,000 square feet) is open to the public on Saturday from 9 to 4.

Bromeliad growers and enthusiasts from all over Florida will bring a large selection of top quality Bromeliads for your purchasing pleasure. Those who register for the Conference will get first stab at acquiring some of these fantastic plants on Friday evening.

The hotel is the **Ramada Gateway**, 7470 W Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy 192, Kissimmee, FL 34747. To obtain the conference rate, call the hotel (407-396-4400 or 407-997-6662 from 9am to 5pm) and ask for the special **Bromeliad Extravaganza** rates.

The special hotel room rate for Conference registrants is only \$85.80 per night (\$67.80 plus \$18 resort fee) plus 13.5% taxes. This rate includes free parking and breakfast discounts. Deluxe tower rooms are also available for only \$105 (\$87 plus \$18 resort fee). Rooms are King or 2 Queen bed rooms.

A deposit for one night's room rate plus taxes (\$67.80 plus \$9.16 or \$76.96 for the courtyard or pool view rooms) will be required at the time of booking (refundable up until 72 hours before the scheduled arrival date). The special rates will also be available from Sept. 23rd to 30th for those who would like to make a vacation out of their stay, but you need to book

before August 26th to get this special rate. Hotel check-in time is 4pm and check out time is 11am.

You should book the hotel as soon as possible.

Plant of the Month

This month's theme is to showcase anything you deem rare, unusual, exotic, strange, and any other adjective you can think of to describe bromeliads that are not common! Within the 72 genera and 40 bigenerics listed on the FCBS photo database, I'm sure you'll be able to find something in your collection to share with the members! It should be an interesting night!



Bromeliad Society of Central Florida

MEMBERSHIP FORM

_____ NEW MEMBER _____ RENEWAL

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name (s) _____

Address _____

City, State Zip +4 _____

Phone/Email _____

\$15 for one member, plus \$5 for each additional family member at the same address.

Name Tags are optional. The price for a name tag is \$10 per member.

If so desired please insert number ordered _____ \$ _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ Make checks payable to BSCF

Either **bring payment to the next meeting, OR** If mailing please send to:

Bromeliad Society of Central Florida, PO Box 568872 Orlando, FL 32856-8872.

Meetings are held at Leu Gardens, 1920 N Forest Ave, Orlando, FL 32803.

On the 3rd Wednesday of every month, from 6:30-9:00 pm. Buy plants from the speaker between 6:30-7pm. The meeting starts promptly at 7:00. You'll enjoy informative programs, Show & Tell, plant sales, door prizes and raffles. Members also receive a monthly newsletter. Please come join us!

Date _____ Check # _____ Cash \$ _____

www.bromeliadsorlando.com

Officers

President: **Dan Sawyer**

Vice-President: **Bonnie Friedrich**

Treasurer: **Joyce Gibault**

Recording Secretary: **Robin Norton**

Membership Secretary: **Pam Marion**

Immediate Past President: **Mike McMahon**

Florida Council Reps: **Mike Saunders & Dan Sawyer**

POSITIONS

Meeting Layout Coordinator: President.

Meeting Hospitality Coordinator: **Kathy Hancock** (Beverages); **Peggy Bohl** (Snacks)

Welcome Table/Raffle Coordinator: **Robin Norton** Helpers: **Katherine Vaccaro, Kathy & Phil Hancock**

Recycling Coordinator:

Meeting Breakdown Coordinator: **Pam Marion** Helpers: **Tina Self, Karen Steinberg, Robin Norton, Katherine Vaccaro & others who pitch in**

Secret Bid Auction Coordinator: **Phil Wright**

Plant Of The Month Coordinator: **Steve Beaudoin**

Speaker Helper: **Bonnie Friedrich**

Librarian :

Newsletter Editor: **John Vecchitto**

Newsletter Proofreader: **Marty Folk, Katherine Vaccaro, Destini Coiner**

Audit Committee: **Dr. Telka diFate, Bonnie Friedrich, Steve Beaudoin, John Vecchitto**

PLANT SALES -

Plant Sale Chair for Leu Gardens Spring Plant Sale: **Mike Saunders**

Plant Sale Chair for Mother's Day Show: **Mike McMahon**

Plant Sale Chair for Mead Garden Fall Plant Sale: **Mike McMahon**

Field Trip Organizer: **Karen Steinberg**

Holiday Party Coordinator: **Paula Edwards**

Webmaster: **Greg Kolojeski**

Permission to reprint is granted with acknowledgment. Please send all correspondence to the address below:

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BSCF is a nonprofit Florida corporation recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) organization.

Donations to this society are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.

BSCF is an affiliate of the Bromeliad Society International, Inc., and a member of the Florida Council of Bromeliad Societies, Inc. and the Cryptanthus Society.