



Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

President: Greg Kolojeski
Vice Pres.: Sudi Hipsley
Secretary: Paula White
Treasurer: Sudi Hipsley
Librarian: Ginny Fortenese
Plant Sales: Alan Bennett
Publicity: Marty Folk
Hospitality: Brunilda Wicker
Landscape: Barbara Whittier
FCBS Reps: Sudi Hipsley & Greg Kolojeski
Website: <http://bromeliads.club>

Copyright © 2017, Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society, All Rights Reserved.

40th Year Anniversary: 1977-2017

December 2017 Newsletter

Meeting Announcement:
Sunday, Dec. 17, 2017 at 1 PM
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford

The December meeting will be our **Annual Holiday Dinner Party** where we get to exchange gifts, eat good food, and socialize. Please **RSVP by Dec. 15th** to seminolebromeliadsociety@gmail.com



A few of the presents at the 2016 Holiday Party

The Holidays are upon us and once again we will be having our annual Holiday Dinner Party. We get to exchange gifts in the form of a surprise plant (Bromeliad or other tropical plant). We also have an extended *refreshment break* and can just visit with each other and eat for the entire meeting. Food, fun, and a new plant **present** to open and show off. The society also invites the other Sanford Garden Club members to our Holiday party because the more the merrier. This is a good time to get to know some of the members of our sister circles--the Jacaranda and Wildflower Circles.

The society will furnish the main course and beverage. Our main course will be **Ham**. The beverages will be **iced tea, coffee, and water with lemon**. We will have a buffet style serving line and the tables and chairs will be set up so we may dine in style.

The rest of the feast is up to you, the members! Each member is asked to bring a **covered dish**. It may be anything that you feel you want to bring: appetizer, salad, vegetable or dessert.

If you wish to bring a beverage, be it a cola or wine, feel free to do so. Some of our members have brought their own bottle of wine to enjoy with dinner. If you bring wine, you might also want to bring your own wine glasses. Paper plates and utensils will be furnished by the SBTPS.

FINALLY, THE PRESENTS...

We all enjoy getting plants at our meetings and this one is no exception. The plants come wrapped up like presents, so you never know what you are going to get until you open your present. Each member is to bring a Plant (either Bromeliad or another tropical plant). Please do bring a nice plant, one that you would like to receive if you were to get a present. Wrap your present Holiday Gift style. This is the most challenging part, as some of the plants are hard to disguise and/or wrap. Do your best. **DO NOT PUT YOUR NAME ON THE GIFT**. The presents are a surprise until opened. If you wish, once opened, you may then advise the receiver that it came from your collection. The plant name and proper care instructions should be included inside with the plant.

Choosing the gifts...

All who bring a plant get a raffle ticket. We then draw tickets and, when your ticket is chosen, you get to choose the gift that you would like to have from the selection of gift-wrapped mystery plants. Unwrap your plant and show it to us all. We then have that person draw the next ticket to see who goes next.

Time is short, the Party is almost upon us...

What you need: **A covered dish, a nice gift-wrapped surprise Bromeliad(s) or other tropical plant, a bottle of wine or cola (only if you wish)**. Come ready to enjoy the party and fellowship with each other! Hope to see you there.

Our Holiday Party Committee Chairwoman is Paula White who has done such a great job organizing this party for many years and this year will be just as much fun as always!

Don't forget—The meeting starts at **1:00 PM** (one hour earlier than our usual start).

President's Message

November Meeting

Our November meeting had 34 attendees who enjoyed a wonderful presentation by Jay Thurrott on Mounting Bromeliads. Jay donated the mounted bromeliads that he assembled to the Society and most were placed on the Raffle tables (with a few also on the Door Prize Drawing table). In a not unrelated development, we proceeded to set a new record for raffle ticket sales! We adopted Plant Sale Improvements and had elections and still managed to adjourn the meeting promptly at 4:00 PM.

We had a number of new members and visitors at the meeting. Our membership roll has now increased to 74 members, which is a 32% increase from last year at this time.

Election of SBTPS Officers

The members unanimously elected a slate of officers for 2018: Gregory Kolojeski for president, Sudi Hipsley for vice president and treasurer, and Paula White for secretary. We will do our best next year to try to support your confidence in electing us even if we only get to serve for 49 days (which would be the period of our term if the merger is accomplished with new officers then being elected).

Proposal to Merge the SBTPS and Sanford Garden Club

In the next few days, members will be sent proposed bylaws which would accomplish the merger if adopted. To do this, the proposed bylaws need to pass by a 2/3 or greater margin at the February 18th meeting. If you have any questions about the proposed bylaws, just reply to the email or contact us at the Society email address.

Membership Renewal

2018 Membership Dues are \$15 for an individual or \$20 for a dual membership. You can renew your membership at the meeting or mail your check to Sudi Hipsley, SBTPS Treasurer, 6166 Tuscawilla Dr, Leesburg, FL 34748-9190. If you joined this year in October or later, your 2018 membership is already included.

2017 in Review

2017 was an incredibly busy year for our Society. We started it by adopting a new logo and then we had a fun field trip to McCrory's Sunny Hill Nursery, a special 40th anniversary meeting presented by Bud Martin, two record-setting plant sales in April and August, numerous great presentations (both by popular previous speakers and some first-time speakers) and we steadily increased our membership rolls. It was simply a great year in all respects.

It has been an honor and privilege to continue be associated with such a great group of people like our members. In a year of many highlights, I still remember leaving a meeting with another member stopping to tell me that she just loves our meetings since everyone is just so enthusiastic! Let's keep that enthusiasm going!!

--Greg Kolojeski



Tillandsia lonantha 'Mexican Select'



Chinese Lantern Maple (Abutilon spp.)



Dendrobium Caesar Mini Orchids



Queen Emma Crinum

**January 21, 2018 Meeting:
Foliage Vriesea by Dave Johnston**

The above pictures were all featured recently as a **Plant Picture of the Day** at <https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleBromeliadSociety/>. If you go there and **Like** the page, you will get to see a new picture every day!