



Seminole Bromeliad and Tropical Plant Society

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

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40th Year Anniversary: 1977-2017

May 2017 Newsletter

Meeting Announcement:
Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 2 PM
200 Fairmont Dr., Sanford

Our May meeting features Tom Wolfe with a hands-on presentation: **Basic Bromeliad Culture.**



Tom Wolfe bio

Tom joined the *Bromeliad Guild of Tampa Bay* (BGTB) in 1965 where he has held many positions including President. He has been instrumental in encouraging and working with BGTB members to present annual shows, participate in community shows and sales, and refurbish bromeliad beds at Lowry Park Zoo, Eureka Springs Park, and Ybor City Museum State Park. Tom helps create displays at the Florida State Fair annually promoting bromeliads.

Tom has designed and installed many residential and commercial landscapes featuring bromeliads. He is in demand as a speaker throughout the United States presenting programs on bromeliads to garden clubs, botanical gardens, horticultural clubs and bromeliad societies.

Tom was General Chairman of the successful World Bromeliad Conference "Bromeliad Safari," held at Saddlebrook Golf & Tennis Resort and hosted by the BGTB. Tom became an accredited BSI Bromeliad Judge in 1982 and is now a Master Judge. He served on the BSI Board of Directors for 14 years serving as Director, Secretary, with 6 years as VP and 6 years as President. Tom is the first BSI President to serve two consecutive terms. Tom and his wife Carol live in Lutz and grow their bromeliads on their 2½ acres of land and greenhouses.

Tom's presentation will include removing pups, potting mixes, water, air circulation, fertilizing and much more. If you have any questions on bromeliads, Tom is the person who knows the answer. He will bring some choice plants and something unusual as well. This will not be a slide show, but will be a completely hands-on presentation. You don't want to miss it!

Tom has been informed that SBTPS members are plant buyers (one of our presenters last year said she sold more plants than ever at our meeting). Tom will be bringing a number of great plants at various price points. I picked up a few of his plants at another society's meeting and they were great values as well as great plants. Arrive early for the best selection!

Refreshments at our May meeting will be furnished by Gloria Johnson and the SBTPS.

President's Message

April Plant Sale

It was a spectacular record-breaking plant sale with sales up more than 20% over last April (which was a record-breaker at the time) and over 1700 plants and plant items (planters and plant holders) sold. We had 20 members who sold plants and many more as volunteers who helped out in so many ways.

Reviews from plant buyers were nothing but raves with most pointing out just how helpful and friendly the members were to them. And we picked up at least eight new members who we hope to see at our May meeting. Everyone just did a wonderful job and should be proud of their efforts!

New SBTPS Logo Items

We had some logo merchandise available at the plant sale. There were *hanging decorative ceramic tiles* (8" x 8") for \$18 (retail value, \$35). We only have two left, so our May meeting may be your last chance at getting one.

At our May meeting, we will have five white *men's polo shirts* (L and XL) with an embroidered logo for sale at only \$12 (sales tax included). The embroidered logo came out even better than expected, so we can order more including women's polo shirts if members want them.

Business Matter for May Meeting

We will have a vote at the May meeting on acquiring a new lockable steel storage cabinet. Info on this was emailed to all members; so we should be able to just have a quick vote.

Business Matters for June Meeting

We expect to have a vote on some changes for future plant sales. Also, we will likely have a proposal for charitable donations. All members will soon be receiving detailed info by email which should allow us to have quick votes on these matters at the June meeting.

Plant Picture of the Day

At exactly 9 AM each day, a **new Plant Picture of the Day** magically appears on our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/SeminoleBromeliadSociety/>.

If you are one of the nearly two billion Facebook users and want to automatically see it in Facebook, just go to our Facebook page and click on *Follow*. If you are the rare non-Facebook user (*what are you waiting for?*), just click on the link shown above every day to see the latest picture of the day. Most pictures are from members' gardens with a few from visits to public gardens in Central Florida. If you want to include a picture for the Plant Picture of the Day (or in a future newsletter), just email the image to us.

**June 18th meeting: Ken Hicks
Orchid Care and Potting Orchids**

Member Plant Photos

Our members have lots of great plants in their landscapes and greenhouses. Three great examples are shown below. You really need to submit some pictures of your plants. I can't be the only member who takes hundreds of pictures of garden plants every month (*or am I?*).

---Greg Kolojeski



Penny Bullard's Androlepsis skinneri



Mary Folk's Heliconia 'Brazilian Bomber'



Greg Kolojeski's Amaryllis 'Hercules'